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Two tankers set ablaze

Iraqi jets blast Kharg terminal

BAGHDAD, March 19, (Agencies): Iraq said its jets blasted Iran's main oil terminal in the northern Gulf today leaving at least two Iranian tankers on fire, as Tehran pursued the "war of the cities" with a missile strike on Baghdad, and more than a dozen into other Iraqi cities.

A military communique from Baghdad said waves of jets penetrated the defences around Iran's Kharg Island terminal, hitting oil installations and several tankers at around noon (0900 GMT).

The terminal feeds Iran's vital oil export shuttle ferrying crude to safer waters in the south of the Gulf.

The Iranian News Agency (Ina) said an Iraqi aircraft was shot down in a dogfight over Gulf waters around the same

time, but it made no mention of a raid on Kharg.

Iraq said an Iranian missile slammed into Baghdad 30 minutes after the raid was launched, killing several residents. Tehran said its Revolutionary Guards fired the ground-to-air missile from the Kharg command headquarters in Baghdad.

An Iraqi military spokesman, announcing that two Al Hussein missiles were fired into Tehran after dark, declared: "We will make the Iranians live in hell until they accept peace."

The Iraqi news agency, said Iraqi warplanes and helicopter gunships flew 270 combat missions today, including attacks on Iranian cities.

In other attacks in the three-week war of the cities, Ina said Iranian forces shelled eight Iraqi cities and fired 12 rockets at the southern Iraqi port of Umm

Qasr yesterday morning.

It said a missile was also fired at economic and military centres in the southern Iraqi city of Al-Amara, some 60 km (40 miles) from the border.

Destroyed

The official Iraqi News Agency quoted military communique as saying "a very large number" of Iraqi warplanes penetrated Iranian air defences around Kharg and bombed a tanker assembly zone just east of the island, heavily defended by batteries of surface-to-air missiles, including US-made Hawks, and anti-aircraft guns.

"Our planes... dropped their bombs on many tankers of various types and size, destroyed their targets, set them ablaze, and left columns of smoke billowing over the area," a communique said.

Gulf-based shipping officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, reported that at least two tankers owned by the National Iranian Tanker Co. were "burning fiercely" after the air raid.

They identified the ships as the 316,379-ton Avaj and the 253,837-ton Sanandaj.

Both have been hit before in Iraqi air strikes in the so-called "tanker war."

Occupy

The officials said an Iranian supply boat was also hit and that there were casualties. But they said they had no other details. Ships in the area reported thick pillars of black smoke over Kharg.

A military communique issued in Baghdad said Iraqi forces today overran the headquarters of Kurdish rebel leader Jalal Talabani in the mountains of northeastern Iraq near the Iranian border.

The communique said Talabani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan had helped Iranian forces occupy the border town of Halabja and other villages in Sulaymaniyah province.

The communique said three villages were seized in the thrust, listing them as Sirkelo, Perkelo and Ziyo, in the region.

Iraq has said it killed more than 9,000 Iraqis in the province since Tuesday but Iraq denies any fighting took place. Iraq said its forces withdrew from the area before the Iranian offensive.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said Iraqi jets raided three Iranian cities last night and this morning, causing extensive damage.

(Continued on Page 2)

Gulf foes attend OIC conference

AMMAN, March 19, (Reuters): Officials from warring Gulf nations Iraq and Iran sat round the same table at an Islamic conference in Amman today but held out little hope for peace.

The delegates attended a preliminary session to set the agenda for a "foreign ministers' meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) which opens in Jordan on Monday."

Iraq's chief delegate, Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al Tashkiri, told reporters the 46-member OIC should adopt "a realistic resolution stipulating that Iraq be condemned as the aggressor" in their 7-1/2-year-old war.

Tashkiri, head of the inter-

national relations section at the Foreign Ministry in Tehran, said past OIC resolutions on the conflict had "not met the expected level."

But Iran's decision to send a delegation appeared to mark a change in attitude to the Islamic grouping, especially since Jordan has been one of Iraq's staunchest allies.

Iraq boycotted an OIC summit in Kuwait in January 1987, saying the organisation was biased in Iraq's favour.

The Iraqis discounted the idea of a meeting with the Iranians in Amman.

"It's not a question of meeting, it's a question of whether the

Iranian government is ready to accept peace and so far they haven't," Riyadh Al Qaysi, head of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry's department for international organisations, said.

"Our stance has always been that while we defend ourselves we continue to sue for peace, and it falls upon the international community to impose on those who do not want peace," he added.

The OIC has tried several times to mediate between Iraq and Iran, but has made little headway. Other major items on the agenda of this week's five-day conference will be the Arab-Israeli conflict and Afghanistan.

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دورہ میزائل سے بخار
پارہان کا حملہ
ایرانی آئل کی تحصیلات پر
تجزیوں میں آئل بحریہ کی افواج
تحمہ بھیجیے کی برایت
تعمیل و تخریب میں برف کے
تورے سے ۱۳ افراد ہلاک
پاکستان تیرہ گجراتی ہمار گیا
پوشنیت

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be above normal with moderate southeasterly wind may freshen at times.
State of sea: moderate to rough
High water: 1.00 am, 1.00 pm
Low water: 7.00 am, 6.00 pm
Sunrise: 5.32 am
Sunset: 5.59 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 27°C 81°F
Ahmad: 22°C 82°F
Fahala: 23°C 73°F
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 28°C 82°F
Ahmad: 23°C 73°F
Fahala: 24°C 75°F
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 16°C 61°F
Ahmad: 18°C 64°F
Fahala: 18°C 64°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 82 per cent
Ahmad: 82 per cent
Fahala: 84 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 76 per cent
Ahmad: 76 per cent
Fahala: 79 per cent

Avalanches swallow 2 villages in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, March 19, (Reuters): Avalanches swallowed two villages in Jammu and Kashmir, killing at least 55 people in two days and bringing deaths from 10 days of bad weather to more than 250, officials said today.

They said they feared the toll in the north Indian state could be much higher. The United News of India news agency said earlier the avalanches, latest in a series of disasters caused by heavy rain and snow, claimed at least 90 lives.

Snow and ice thundered down on at least two villages in south-east Kashmir and reports reaching Srinagar said scores of houses were buried.

Army helicopters were sent to

rescue survivors from the remote villages. Roads were blocked and medicines and other relief supplies had to be air-lifted to survivors.

The 300-km (185-mile) highway linking winter capital Jammu with the summer capital Srinagar reopened yesterday after being impassable for eight days, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. Landslides and snowdrifts had blocked the only surface route into the Kashmir valley in 22 places.

The Air Force and a domestic airline slithered between the cities for four days in an effort to help 5,000 travellers stranded in Jammu reach Srinagar. PTI said the 2,000 still in Jammu when the road re-opened left by bus late yesterday.

India 'has N-bombs'

WASHINGTON, March 19, (UPI): India has assembled a handful of highly sophisticated low-yield atomic bombs that can be delivered to targets by combat aircraft, according to US intelligence sources, former National Security Council officials and congressional staffers.

Intelligence sources also said there is strong evidence that India has developed a nuclear warhead for use on surface-to-surface missiles with a 200-mile range (300 km).

Until now the Indian government's official position has been that it possessed the capability to

build nuclear weapons but had not actually assembled such devices.

Administration officials view with deep concern India's reported progress in developing a nuclear arsenal because of its historical conflict with neighbouring Pakistan.

Intelligence sources said Pakistan now has enough fissionable material to build two to three atomic bombs and is accelerating its nuclear weapons programme.

One analyst said Pakistan is engaged "in a worldwide search" for beryllium, a steel used to encase atomic weapons and to enhance their explosive power.

Prone to heart attacks

SANTA FE, New Mexico, March 19, (AP): Grocery store managers, construction foremen, mine inspectors, and other low-level and middle managers have a greater risk of heart attack than blue-collar workers or other white-collar workers, a study shows.

Previous studies have found that blue-collar workers are more likely to die of heart attacks than white-collar workers. But

Robert Brackbill, the author of the new study, said that the managers with increased risk of disability from a heart attack are in some respects more like blue-collar workers than white-collar workers.

"They had the lowest mean level of education compared to other professional groups," said Brackbill, of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Kuwaiti oil exports flowing smoothly

THE chairman of the Kuwaiti Oil Tankers Company (KOTC), Abdul Fattah Al Badr, has said Kuwait's oil exports have not been jeopardised so far by recurrent attacks on commercial shipping in the Arabian Gulf.

But Iranian and Iraqi raids on oil tankers in the Gulf sea lanes did affect the cost of oil exports, Al Badr told a Kuwaiti daily.

Due to the re-registration of Kuwaiti tankers in the US, these ships are now plying the Gulf without any harassments and "our exports are flowing as perfectly as planned," the KOTC chief executive said.

Asked if he was worried over further escalations in the Gulf war and their probable impact on the safety and movement of tankers, Al Badr said ships were always there. Yet he added that it was reassuring that the world has perceived the need to keep the Gulf a safe international waterway.

Adjusted

Al Badr said the KOTC would not feel threatened after the completion of a pipeline which would carry Kuwaiti oil to the Red Sea terminal of Yanbu in Saudi Arabia.

He explained that the company had long ago adjusted its oil lifting policies to cope with the country's long term oil marketing requirements.

On the KOTC fleet, he said the company surveyed the market constantly to decide whether to expand or curtail the size of the country's tankers fleet.

Should the need arise, Kuwait would not hesitate to build more tankers but otherwise the country would not take the risk of involving in speculation which could result in many tankers lying idle, he said.

He added that six tankers are now being built for Kuwait in South Korea and are expected to be received by the end of the year. They should bring the number of Kuwaiti tankers to 30, he said.



A small Palestinian boy throws a stone at Israeli soldiers. (Reuters wirephoto)

US sends envoy to keep plan alive

Egypt seeks safeguards

CAIRO, March 19, (Agencies): Egypt urged the United States today to press forward with its Middle East peace initiative in what appeared as an affirmation of qualified support for the proposals advanced by Secretary of State George Shultz for resolving the problem of the occupied territories.

The Egyptian affirmation was made by Foreign Minister Emad Abdel-Meguid following an hour-long meeting with US envoy Philip Habib, who arrived earlier in the day at the start of a fresh tour in the region.

"Our position in Egypt has been to encourage the United States to move forward with the peace process because we all in this region are in need of peace," Abdel-Meguid said.

Egypt has given qualified support for the Shultz plan. President Mubarak described it as "encouraging" but said it needs to be developed.

Initiative

President Reagan, after meeting Shultz in Washington on Wednesday, said the United States "will not slice this initiative apart and will not abandon it."

In addition to Egypt and Jordan, reports from Washington said Habib will also make stops in Saudi Arabia and Morocco presumably to drum up support for the American plan.

Shultz also said the plan will not be fragmented and vowed the United States will continue its peace campaign.

Shultz insisted yesterday that his Middle East peace initiative had not failed.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday he couldn't comment on the American Middle East peace proposal because Shultz had not briefed him on it, Egypt's state-run Middle East news agency said.

Despite intensive Arab diplomatic activity and pressure, the Reagan administration has refused the idea of including a Palestinian in the Arab League delegation that will visit Washington on March 28, Arab diplomatic sources in Washington said today.

Autonomy

Diplomatic sources said that, in the absence of official word, Egypt seems to be seeking safeguards that the formula of autonomy for the Palestinians of the occupied territories, proposed by Shultz for a transitional period, will be just that transitional.

Habib is scheduled to meet with Mubarak tomorrow and then travel to Jordan. Jordanian officials have said they were studying the Shultz plan "positively" but made no outright declaration of approval.

Soviet pledge to end policy of intervention

DUBROVNIK, March 19, (UPI): A document signed during the visit of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev ends any further attempts by Moscow to maintain a grip on Eastern Europe by military intervention, Yugoslav officials said.

Soviet forces invaded Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Hungary in 1956 in what has become known as the Brezhnev Doctrine to keep those communist East European countries firmly in line with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet-Yugoslav declaration signed by Gorbachev and released after he wound up a five-day visit yesterday to Yugoslavia, pledged to allow all communist parties to choose their own paths of development. Although a communist country, Yugoslavia is not part of the Soviet bloc.

The declaration appeared to be another attempt by Gorbachev to scrap the policies of former Soviet ruler Leonid Brezhnev. Gorbachev has crusaded against Brezhnev's headline domestic and foreign policy decisions.

Declaration

Stanislav Stojanovic, executive secretary of the Yugoslav central committee presidency, was asked whether Moscow could intervene again in an East European client state without violating the principles of the declaration.

"In view of these principles, we could hardly expect the Soviet Union to act in the same way (as in 1956 and 1968)," he replied.

The 12-page document reaffirms joint agreements in 1955 and 1956 that patched up relations following Yugoslavia's break with Josef Stalin in 1948.

"Proceeding from the conviction that no one has a monopoly over the truth, the two sides declare that they have no pretensions of imposing their concepts of social development on anyone," the document said.



Gorbachev

Death toll 99

Israeli troops raid hospital

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, March 19, (Agencies): Israeli troops, tightening a clampdown on a 100-day-old Palestinian uprising, raided a West Bank hospital today, swooped on a district in Gaza city and arrested television crewmen in a West Bank town.

In an overnight raid, troops arrested 12 Palestinian patients and visitors at Ramallah Hospital, prompting doctors to stage a sit-down strike, eyewitnesses said.

The hospital has been a centre of anti-Israeli protest in recent weeks and local youths have frequently flown the outlawed Palestinian flag from its roof.

Preventing

Military authorities in the occupied territories have stepped up measures aimed at controlling the uprising in the occupied territories and preventing widespread rioting on Land Day, the March 30 anniversary of the death of six Israeli Arabs in a 1976 demonstration against land confiscation.

In Ramallah, police arrested the members of five television crews trying to film what appeared to be shooting by Jewish settlers on the town's northern outskirts.

Curfew

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) television correspondent Keith Graves said the men, all Israeli nationals employed by foreign networks, were taken to Ramallah police station when they refused an Army order to leave the area.

In Gaza, residents of the Sabra district were awakened before dawn by Army jeeps with loudspeakers announcing that a night curfew imposed on the Gaza Strip last week would remain in force all day in Sabra, home to 10,000 people.

Israel radio reported that a number of residents were arrested during the night.

Shortly after dawn, troops arrived at the Sabra home of a journalist and ordered him to clear away rubble left by demonstrators in the street outside.

When he produced press identification, troops called him a

"troublemaker" and searched his home and office, he said.

The curfew on the city's Sha'ti Palestinian refugee camp continued today, 24 hours after troops shot dead a resident in a violent demonstration there, an Army spokesman said.

A Palestinian teenager in the West Bank refugee camp at Ein Beit Elma was killed in a clash with troops after what Palestinian sources said were mass arrests at the camp.

His death brought to 99 the unofficial toll of Palestinians killed in the unrest which erupted in the Gaza Strip on Dec 9.

Sources at Al Ithihad Hospital in the West Bank town of Nablus said the youth bled to death because he failed to receive prompt medical attention after troops shot him in the leg.

"All the blood in his body was just siphoned off," the sources said.

Denied

An Army spokeswoman denied any negligence. "The wounded man was treated by a doctor on the spot but despite this he died from his wound," she said.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) said troops today used tear gas to force traders in the West Bank town of Jenin to close their shops.

An Army spokeswoman could neither confirm nor deny the report. "We use so much tear gas round there anyway, it would be impossible to verify," she said.

Swoops

The PPS said over a hundred Palestinians had been arrested in nighttime swoops by security forces recently and Israel Radio reported that 200 inmates of a Gaza prison had been transferred to a jail in the Negev desert to make more room.

Widespread unrest continued today with Palestinian sources reporting demonstrations in at least a dozen spots throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A delegation of British Muslims, including former pop music star Cat Stevens, yesterday accused Israel of "racist, state-controlled terrorism" in its suppression of Palestinian unrest.

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INTERNATIONAL

2 killed as car rams IRA funeral cortege

BELFAST, March 19, (Reuters): A car tried to ram an IRA funeral procession today and its two occupants were seized and beaten by Republican mourners, eyewitnesses said. Police said two men, believed to be those involved in the attack, were later found dead.

The car had raced towards the procession, swerving to a halt yards (metres) from a hearse carrying the body of Kevin Brady from a church to Belfast's Milltown cemetery.

Burial
Brady was one of three people killed this week in an attack on mourners attending the burial in the same cemetery of three Irish Republican Army members shot dead on a mission in Gibraltar.

Onlookers heard a burst of gunfire shortly after the two men were driven away in a black taxi, their heads streaming with blood.

The bodies, covered with blankets, were later found dumped on waste ground nearby. British Army patrols and police, who had earlier kept away from the funeral, sealed off the area.

An eyewitness told reporters: "These two were clearly on a suicide mission."

Brady's funeral cortege was attacked as it was making its way from a Roman Catholic church towards the same cemetery where Wednesday's gun and grenade attack took place. The IRA buries its dead in a special plot in the cemetery.

Incident
The cortege continued on its way after the incident.

Eyewitnesses said a number of mourners were injured. At least one man suffered head wounds.

Mourners scattered in all directions as the car sped towards them down Andersonstown road in predominantly Roman Catholic West Belfast.

A police spokesman denied rumours sweeping West Belfast that the dead men were under-cover police who had been flushed by stewards responsible for keeping order at the funeral.

US negotiating Noriega's departure

Panama declares emergency

PANAMA CITY, March 19, (Agencies): Panama's government declared a state of emergency that appeared aimed at forcing the reopening of banks and other businesses closed during three weeks of fiscal and political crisis.

US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State William Walker arrived yesterday to negotiate the departure of military strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. In Washington, a White House official said that if Noriega flees, the United States will not seek his extradition to answer drug trafficking charges.

Rights
The general's opponents responded to the emergency decree by calling for an indefinite general strike starting on Monday. The economy already is reeling from walkouts that intensified this week and US sanctions—all part of a campaign to drive Noriega from power that has become increasingly violent.

Under the "state of urgency" declared by acting President Manuel Solís Palma, the government may suspend basic civil and property rights.

A government statement announcing the move blamed the nation's economic chaos on the US-backed freeze of its international bank accounts and the opposition campaign: "There is a real undeclared war against the Republic of Panama."

Solís Palma was named to succeed Eric Arturo Delvalle, who was ousted Feb 26 by pro-Noriega legislators and went into hiding after he tried to fire the general, who heads Panama's

15,000-strong defence forces. Two Panamanian pilots who worked for Noriega have defected to the United States, a US government official said last night.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the pilots told officials that Cuba has provided Noriega with up to 16 tons of military equipment since the political crisis in that country erupted three weeks ago.

Arrested
Just hours after the emergency decree was issued yesterday, troops broke into a radio station owned by opposition national assemblyman Francisco Artola, arresting 12 people, Artola said.

He said those arrested, including members of the opposition umbrella group National Civic Crusade, were on the air discussing a strike against a subsidiary of United Brands Co. in the town of Changuinola.

"This man must go," Artola said of Noriega. "The country must democratise."

In a late evening news conference, crusade leader Aurelio Barria said another general strike was being called "to put a halt to the catastrophic national situation."

Friday's decree allows the government to suspend virtually all civil rights, including freedom of speech.

Also subject to controls is the right to private property. An explanation accompanying the decree took special aim at the scarcity of cash in the economy, signaling the possibility the government would force the nation's 118 local and foreign-owned banks to reopen.

UN mission to probe border clash

Nicaragua halts offensive

TEGUCIGALPA, March 19, (Reuters): US troops sent to show support for Honduras could be drawn into combat if Nicaraguan aggression increases, the Honduran President said, but Nicaragua said its anti-rebel operation had already ended.

A United Nations mission was headed for the tense border area next week after an emergency Security Council session yesterday debated Nicaraguan charges that 3,200 US troops were sent to pave the way for military intervention in Nicaragua.

Concern
An envoy from Managua called President Reagan's despatch of troops an attempt to create an artificial crisis, but Honduran President Jose Azcona told Spanish Radio, Nicaraguan forces had taken 37 square miles (60 square km) of Honduran territory.

In Washington the troop movements sparked criticism from opponents in Congress who claim soldiers were sent to spur the resumption of US aid to the Contra rebels, which was cut off at the end of February.

But six Conservative Democratic congressmen joined five Republicans yesterday in proposing \$48 million in non-lethal aid for the rebels and authority to supply up to \$5 million in undeclared lethal and non-lethal aid.

The border hostilities caused concern about ceasefire talks due to start between the Nicaraguan government and rebels next Monday in the Nicaraguan town of Sapoa. A Contra spokesman said the rebels would attend if government aggression stopped.

A senior Defence Ministry source in Managua said Nicaragua called off its offensive against the Contras on Wednesday after learning of the proposed US troop movement.

Azcona said US troops could be drawn into fighting if Nicaraguan aggression increased, although US officials stressed there were no plans for US soldiers to see combat.

US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said the moral support mission that began on Thursday was expected to last about 10 days.

Exercises
The last of the US forces parachuted into Honduras yesterday. The troops will be engaged in military exercises some 60 miles (100 km) from the border zone, US officials said.

A Nicaraguan commander on the border denied on Thursday his troops had entered Honduras but said they overran a network of Contra supply bases and pushed 1,800 rebels back into Honduras.

A seasoned Western analyst in Managua with access to secret military information said he believed the main target of the drive had been a Contra command centre and supply depot within Honduras.

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Also subject to controls is the right to private property. An explanation accompanying the decree took special aim at the scarcity of cash in the economy, signaling the possibility the government would force the nation's 118 local and foreign-owned banks to reopen.

Arrested
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Labour loses in key Australian state polls

SYDNEY, March 19, (Reuters): Australia's ruling Labour Party lost state elections in New South Wales today.

"I've come here on behalf of the government to concede defeat," Barrie Unsworth, premier of the country's most populous state announced at the tally centre in Sydney.

Election officials reported an uneven swing against Labour of 10 per cent with over half the vote counted. Labour had ruled New South Wales for 12 years.

The state election was seen as a major test for Prime Minister Bob Hawke's nationally ruling Labour Party as it was the first since it won an unprecedented third term last year.

Until the poll, the party controlled four of Australia's six states.

Electoral strategists had said a uniform swing of six per cent would unseat Labour in New South Wales, Australia's major financial centre.

Arrival
"You should see what it's like to try to walk on land after being thrown around at sea for 12 days," said Gillette, whose arrival in Antarctica ended a 4-1/2 year quest that included an unsuccessful expedition last year.

"Until we made it, we weren't really sure it could be done," Gillette, 42, said yesterday. While the crew bailed out

flooded cabins and rowed their 28-foot (8.5-metre) boat through 100-foot (30-metre) swells, a weather station back in the United States each day fed them with sophisticated forecasts and the boat's location was tracked by satellite.

The "Sea Tomato," so-called because of its red colour, was built for \$17,000 and equipped with state-of-the-art navigational and survival equipment. After waiting for nearly a month for proper weather conditions, the expedition almost ended in disaster Feb 22 off the Chilean coast. Twelve hours after leaving under sail, a heavy squall erupted and tipped the craft, sending Gillette, overboard. Gillette, an experienced mountaineer, was saved by a line fastened to the boat.

In the next several days, the boat took two more spills, casting crew members Jay Morrison, 34, and Fred Trombly, 32, into the sea.

Three days out, the crew took down the sails and began to row in shifts, sometimes all night. They crept southward at an average rate of 12.3 knots (2.65 mph, 4.2 kph), about walking speed.

Scandal-ridden brother of Chun flees South Korea

SEOUL, March 19, (Reuters): Ex-President Chun Doo Hwan asked South Korea today to investigate alleged irregularities by a state-backed body once headed by his younger brother.

The brother, Chun Kyong-Hwan, left South Korea secretly yesterday on a flight to Japan, airport officials said.

He is accused by the local media and opposition parties have denounced the government for allowing his departure.

Government sources said action would be taken soon on the elder Chun's request, made through a government official to President Roh Tae-Woo.

A spokesman for Roh was unable immediately to say whether Chun Kyong-Hwan would be brought back to South Korea for an inquiry.

South Korean newspapers in the past 10 days have alleged a string of scandals involving the New Community Movement (known as Saemaul) led by Chun Kyong-Hwan from 1981 to 1987. The officially-sponsored body has since been virtually inactive.

Political analysts said alleged corruption in Saemaul would be an important issue in parliamentary elections due in April and could damage Roh's ruling Democratic Justice Party.

Saemaul was set up in 1970 to speed modernisation of rural areas and its flag often flies alongside the national flag at government buildings across the country.

Newspapers said it amassed millions of dollars by cajoling companies and state agencies into donating funds and forcing people to sell land at less than half its true value.

They also said the younger Chun often travelled abroad using diplomatic passports illegally.



Members of the voyage to Antarctica expedition, row their 28-foot boat "Sea Tomato" past the Romanche glacier in Tierra del Fuego, Chile. (Reuters wirephoto)

First successful rowing trip to Antarctica

BOSTON, March 19, (AP): Ned Gillette's first thought after he was pitched into the frigid waters off Cape Horn was not about his own fate, but whether his "Sea Tomato" would become the first rowboat to reach Antarctica from South America.

Moments later, Gillette was pulled back aboard the technically sophisticated rowboat—which had never been fully tested in open seas—to join his three adventurous colleagues on their 600-mile (960-kilometre) journey across the Drake passage.

On March 7, after suffering three knockdowns in heavy seas and skirting icebergs, the four waddled about Nelson Island off Antarctica like the penguins that greeted them at the end of the voyage.

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They also said the younger Chun often travelled abroad using diplomatic passports illegally.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Explosion

NEW DELHI, March 19, (AP): An explosion at a heavy water plant in western India set off a fire yesterday, and several workers reported irritation in their eyes, United News of India news agency reported.

There were no casualties. The plant, at Baroda, was shut down after the fire in the high-pressure section was brought under control, UNI said quoting officials sources.

Drunken rage

MOSCOW, March 19, (Reuters): A drunken Soviet collective farm worker axed to death six relatives, including his month-old baby son and three other children, after an argument, the newspaper Selskaya Zhizn said today.

Nikolai Andreyev, 22, went berserk in the Baltic republic of Latvia. His wife ran to fetch help at the start of the quarrel, and survived.

Fierce battle

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon, March 19, (Reuters): Muslim guerrillas fought fierce battles today with Israeli troops and their militia allies who thrust into Lebanon's western Bekaa Valley, security sources said.

Target practice in Golden Temple

AMRITSAR, March 19, (AP): Police say Sikh extremists have begun midnight target practice sessions inside the Golden Temple complex, but militants deny the allegation.

Izhar Alam, Amritsar district police chief, said in an interview yesterday that there have been reports from residents of shooting near the golden-roofed temple that is Sikhism's holiest shrine.

Most militants deny any weapons practice is being conducted.

But Harbhajan Singh, a spokesman for the Khalistan Liberation Force, said that "some of our militants sometimes fire a few shots to check weapons and sometimes to know the functioning of the weapons."

The Khalistan Liberation Force is one of a dozen radical groups operating underground in Punjab. Harbhajan Singh, who was interviewed in the temple complex, is wanted by police for alleged terrorist activities.

16 killed
Five members of a Sikh family were among 16 people killed, allegedly by Sikh militants, in Punjab in a 24-hour period, police and news reports said today.

At least 13 of the victims were Sikhs. The killings raised to 486 the number of people killed this year in attacks blamed on the militant campaign for a separate Sikh state.

Feasibility study to be made

Kuwait may bring water from Iraq

MINISTER of Electricity and Water Dr Homoud Al Rqobah yesterday signed a consultative contract with a French company to study the possibility of providing Kuwait with river water from neighbouring Iraq.

The project which is considered one of the most vital projects in the region will be very useful for Kuwait, as it will provide this country with natural water rather than the present use of sea water, expand the agricultural lands, and will help cool the hot temperature in Kuwait.

Stages

The project will also help to develop industry, where many industrial projects will get their requirement of sweet water at reasonable costs.

In the meantime, the minister was quoted by a Kuwaiti newspaper as saying that the study on the project is expected to be over in six months time, noting that meetings between the Kuwaiti and Iraqi sides, regarding this matter, had achieved progress.

The project aims at bringing about 500 million gallons of water daily in two stages. The first is about 200 million gallons of drinking water, and 100 million gallons of water for agriculture.

The second stage is about 150 million gallons of drinking water and 50 million gallons of water for agricultural purposes. He added that the amount will remain as it is until the year 2000 and then the increase of water quantity will depend on the rise in population, as well as consumption in the two countries.

Consumption

Meanwhile, Rqobah said the use of air conditioners is responsible for 70 per cent of the electricity consumed in Kuwait, with 3,600 megawatts used during the summer compared to 1,400 megawatts during the winter.

Al Rqobah said ministries had been requested to increase the temperature at which the thermostats are set to reduce power

consumption. He added that the government could control its power consumption but it needed citizens to conserve power also.

Bills

The ministry is considering various proposals to increase payment of electricity and water bills, he said, adding that one proposal was to deduct the money owed by public servants from their salaries. Rqobah said the ministry gives citizens three warnings over a four-month period before it cuts the power to their residence or office. He said that unpaid bills do not exceed KD 1 million, which is a small amount compared to other ministries.

The minister said that he plans to establish a maintenance department and to encourage Kuwaiti engineers to work in this department. He added that the ministry does not have a single Kuwaiti expert in this field after thirty years because of the desire to occupy administrative posts.



Dr Al Rqobah presides over the contract signing ceremony.

Hassan calls for more active Soviet role in peace conference

AMMAN, March 19, (Kuna): Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan has said the Soviet Union's participation in a proposed international conference on Middle East peace must not be confined to formalities because Arabs regard Moscow as an arbiter and a decision-maker on the issue.

The case is especially so, he added, because the Soviet Union has interests in Southwest Asia and share many of those interests with Arab world.

Dialogue

The Jordanian royalty made the comments in the final session last night of a three-day seminar on Soviet-Arab dialogue which was attended by Arab and Soviet intellectuals and theoreticians.

King Fahd calls for a just settlement

LONDON, March 19, (Kuna): Saudi monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz has said Israel has no choice, but to vacate the land for its legitimate people to establish an independent Palestinian state. In an interview with "Al Hawadeth" magazine, published here today, King Fahd called for a just settlement to the Palestinian cause and an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

He expressed his conviction that the massive Palestinian uprising in occupied Palestine reflected the Palestinian's anger as result of losing hopes.

He affirmed his country's support to all efforts to restore Lebanon's security and stability. He described the regional cooperation in the framework of GCC as steadily and constructively progressing at various levels including defence.

He declared that the Saudi-Iranian relations still exist and the Saudi Embassy in Tehran still functions.

Regarding Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan's mediation with Iran, he hopes that it will gain positive results.

In respect of exchanging messages between Saudi and Soviet officials, King Fahd said, it

Apparently hinting to the Soviet Union's view that Iran must be given ample time to accept peace before clamping sanctions against it, Prince Hassan said condemnation of Iranian aggressions were not sufficient.

Fanaticism

An active involvement, he said, calls for commitment to implementation of Security Council resolution 598 which demanded a ceasefire between the two warring countries.

Jordan's Crown Prince said the proliferation of religious fanaticism — be it Jewish, Christian or Muslim — and an eventual Balkanisation of the region were now the ultimate fears of the Arab world.

Arab world.

According to Prince Hassan, there was yet unexplained political vacuum in the region given the fact that the US has a Rapid Deployment Force in the area whereas the Soviets approach the security of Southwest Asia differently.

He, however, heaped praise on the Soviet Union for supporting the Arab world and hoped the two sides would be able to develop a common concept on the future of this vital part of the world.

Prince Hassan said the second such Soviet-Arab seminar would be held in Cairo early next year and hoped the third could convene in the Soviet Union.

Red Crescent meeting postponed

THE third meeting of the chiefs of the Gulf Cooperation Council Red Crescent Societies, scheduled to be held on March 27 in Doha, Qatar, has been postponed until May 26. An official source at the Qatari Red Crescent Society announced that the meeting will discuss joint aid programmes, training and the coordination between various societies in support of the Palestinian uprising.

Concerning oil policy, he said the oil prices are decided by Opec.

FAO may face financial crisis

EDUARD Souma, director of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) yesterday said that the organisation may face a financial crisis next October, because of the US rearmament from paying its dues totalling \$132 million.

Souma, in an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper during his stopover from Muscat, where he attended FAO's 19th regional conference, expected the situation to be resolved through a reduction of spending by \$20 million and obtaining a \$30 million loan.

On the outcome of the conference, Souma said that the forum which was attended by several countries concentrated on the agricultural situation in the Far East's states.

He indicated that the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries receive various FAO services such as technical aid like expertise in fisheries or agriculture. Regarding agricultural projects, FAO's director general said that the organisation possesses

a long list of studies, expressing readiness to grant any of them upon request for a reasonable fee.

Souma noted that despite the millions of dollars spent to farm the Sudanese lands, all efforts were fruitless because of political instability, lack of transportation and finally the civil war.

In another interview Souma said that the organisation sent many experts to African countries which were hit by droughts and FAO sent agricultural materials to countries like Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Mozambique.

He described the call by HH the Amir of Kuwait for afforestation as "good" because it will increase trees, which in turn, will reduce temperatures, particularly in a country like Kuwait.

FAO's chief said 'Gulf states attach great importance to fisheries and the organisation, for its part, helps countries of the region to better investments of their wealth in this field.

Arms production

A SENIOR Egyptian official said in a press statement published yesterday that Egyptian military manufacture complements the works of Arab military production authority.

"We make parts and they manufacture other components necessary for the anti-aircraft and anti-tank rockets which the authority make," State Minister for Military Production, Gamal Al Sayed told Seyassah.

The minister pointed out that Egyptian military products, including a wide range of ammunition, conventional arms and anti-aircraft and anti-tank missiles are made of 100 per cent

local parts.

He added that Egyptian technicians are manufacturing many parts of two types of warplanes and are working on plans to extend the range of some missiles.

The official indicated exports of locally manufactured arms surplus are steered by Egypt's national security interests, and are not linked to any financial considerations.

The minister emphasised that the national military industry is keeping abreast of the latest technologies in the field of electronics.

Plan to expand dental centres

THE Undersecretary of Kuwait's Public Health Ministry Dr Nael Al Naqib said the ministry plans to expand the dental centres and to extend the work hours at dental clinics. He added that new dental clinics would be opened soon in Farwaniya, the Amiri area and Adan.

Dr Al Naqib said the ministry suffered from a shortage of dentists rather than the quality of dental care offered. He said

they were studying the possibility of extending the work hours in the various clinics and were also considering the establishment of a dentistry college.

The undersecretary said there were no shortages of medicines at hospitals and health centres, adding that the Ministry of Finance had already allocated KD18 million for pharmaceutical purchases.

UN should file suit against US: PLO envoy

UNITED NATIONS, March 19, (AP): The PLO envoy to the United Nations told an emergency General Assembly session yesterday that if the United States tries to close his mission, the world body should file suit to keep it open.

PLO observer Zehdi Labib Terzi indicated the Israeli mission should also be closed.

Some diplomats said the United Nations should consider fighting the US government in American courts and should provide the PLO alternative accommodations on UN international territory. Currently, the mission is located near the UN compound near the centre of New York City.

Legal action

Terzi and other speakers denounced US efforts to close the Palestine Liberation Organisation observer mission under an anti-terrorism act passed by Congress last year, which conflicts with US treaty obligations to the United Nations.

It was the second emergency

session this month on the PLO issue, which has placed the United States on a collision course with the world body.

The United States says it will take legal action to shut the mission if it is not closed by March 21, the effective date of the law. But litigation was expected to delay any move.

Terzi said if the PLO voice was stifled, Israel also should be denied its place in the United Nations. The United Nations has invited the PLO to participate and regards it as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"How could this assembly permit the representative of the aggressor, Israel, to discharge its functions while the PLO is prohibited from discharging its functions?" Terzi asked.

He said the 159-member General Assembly "in fairness and justice... must address this aspect."

"We deem it proper the General Assembly should ask the secretary-general... to take all steps, including legal steps, if

necessary, to ensure the PLO observer mission be able to discharge its official functions without hindrance," Terzi said.

Diplomatic sources said urgent negotiations were under way behind the scenes but opinions were divided on asking Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to go to court.

Some Arab delegates also said that if the PLO mission was closed, the General Assembly and UN departments should leave New York and relocate in Geneva, but a move was considered unlikely.

Tunisian Ambassador Ahmed Ghazal, speaking on behalf of the Arab group, told the General Assembly the United States "has defied the sacred nature of international law" by trying to close the PLO mission.

If the United States insists and rejects arbitration, he said, "then the United Nations must ensure that the PLO be allowed to carry out its official duties in normal conditions and it must have the premises and working area it needs..."

700 students to be expelled

THE Student Science Societies of Kuwait University issued a statement on Friday saying that about 700 students who had been admitted for the academic year 1986-1987 will be expelled from the university at the end of the Spring Session for low marks after receiving their third and final warning.

The societies have requested the Education Minister and Acting Minister of Higher Education Anwar Al Nouri to mediate in finding a solution to this situation.

The statement said that several thousand students are involved when those admitted in 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986 are added.

According to the statement students blame the "unfair academic charter" for the expulsion of this large number of students. The statement said the new charter was made to expel the largest number of students from the university.

CORRECTION

THE name of Rhona Crichton was misspelt in the story headlined "Book on bedouin heritage to be published next month," which appeared in the Arab Times yesterday. We are sorry for the mistake.

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US must recognise PLO, says Bahrain minister

MANAMA, March 19, (AP): Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa said today that US policy on the Arab-Israeli conflict has changed for the better, but said Washington will have to recognise the PLO if peace efforts are to progress.

"I think that there has been a fundamental change in American public opinion," he said in a British Broadcasting Corp. interview.

"Things are accepted in the United States today that were not accepted yesterday."

Accept

He said the principle of exchanging land for peace, which envisages Israel relinquishing occupied Arab land for Arab recognition of the Jewish state, is the basis of the peace plan that US Secretary of State George Shultz recently presented to Middle East governments.

"What Mr. Shultz has proposed in his peace plan is

irreversible," Sheikh Mohammed said.

"Any American administration will in the future have to accept the principle of exchanging land for peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Americans, he said, were becoming "increasingly aware of both the financial and political cost of supporting Israel's policies."

The US peace plan calls for talks starting May 1 at an international conference on limited self-rule for 1.5 million Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In December, the conference would hold talks on the final status of the territories.

Focus

The reported plan does not give the Palestine Liberation Organisation any role, as Washington insists that it recognise Israel and renounce terrorism so the United States could negotiate with the organisation.

Arab governments consider the PLO to be the sole representative of the Palestinians.

Sheikh Mohammed said he did not think the United States would be able to continue refusing to recognise the PLO.

"Without US recognition of the PLO, we will remain far away from peace," he commented.

Embargo

He said he expected the Arab-Israeli problem will be the main focus of an emergency Arab summit that will likely convene in the first half of April.

But he noted that the Iran-Iraq war would also figure on the agenda.

He said that while the United States and the Soviet Union were working for a peaceful settlement of the 7-1/2-year-old Gulf conflict, the superpowers could not be put on the "same level" in this respect.

The Soviets are widely held to be dragging their feet on supporting a US-proposed arms

embargo that is aimed at pressuring Iran to accept a cease-fire.

But Sheikh Mohammed said there has been progress because the Soviet Union "had indicated in principle that it was in favour of a resolution calling for an arms embargo on Iran."

It was "a question of timing when things would go forward," he added.

In Washington, more than 200 American academics who specialise in the Middle East have sent an open letter to President Reagan supporting the administration's peace initiative but also calling on the US to recognise the PLO as a party to the negotiations.

The letter from professors from dozens of colleges and universities urged Congress and all presidential candidates to "recognise that the Palestinian people are a party to the conflict and that their chosen representative, the PLO, must be involved."

Three years jail for issuing dud cheques

KUWAIT'S Court of First Instance, sentenced the financial manager of a local money exchange company to three years imprisonment and hard labour to be followed by deportation for issuing cheques with insufficient funds to the plaintiff Riyad K.

According to the testimony given in court the plaintiff deposited \$150,000 with the company. When he went to withdraw the money along with the interest earned, he was issued three cheques for the sum of the money owed him. When he went to the bank to cash them he was told that they could not be covered by the company's funds.

Three employees of the company including the financial manager were charged for issuing the cheques but it was found that it was the financial manager who had been responsible for the company's account at the bank.

The court found the financial manager guilty and acquitted the other two employees.

Saudis confirm buying Chinese missiles

RIYADH, March 19, (AP): Saudi Arabia confirmed today that it is buying Chinese intermediate-range missiles, but denied reports they would be armed with nuclear warheads.

An official statement, attributed to an unidentified government official and distributed by the state-run Saudi Press Agency, strongly defended the kingdom's growing military arsenal as a factor that "would contribute to regional stability."

The official said Saudi Arabia has acquired "an intermediate-range surface-to-surface missile system from China," but gave no details about the cost or how many missiles are involved.

He stressed, however, that reports the missiles had nuclear capability "is a matter that does not conform to the truth and the kingdom denies it fully."

He added: "The kingdom's

firm and well-known policy is to work perpetually to avert from the Middle East region the dangers of a nuclear arms race and to maintain it free of nuclear weapons of any kind."

The Chinese deal was disclosed in Washington yesterday by the State Department and was said to involve CSS-2 missiles, similar to those used in China's limited space programme in the early 1970s and capable of being fitted with nuclear warheads.

The department said the missiles had a range of 2,200 miles (3,500 kilometres) and could hit any area of the Middle East, including Israel.

It said the US government was assured that nuclear warheads would not be fitted on the missiles, but noted that the sale was a "disturbing regional trend."

Meanwhile, the United States

is concerned with the spread of advanced missile technology in the Middle East, including the acquisition by Saudi Arabia of new Chinese models, the State Department said today.

But, department spokesman Charles Redman said both China and Saudi Arabia had assured the United States that nuclear tips were not planned for the missiles, which have yet to be deployed.

He said that Secretary of State George Shultz had praised US concerns about the missile sale earlier this month with Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. Similar concerns were expressed to Saudi Arabia "at the highest levels," he said.

Asked if these concerns were also made clear to Israel which deploys a similar missile called the Jericho, Redman said: "We have urged restraint on everyone."



HH the Amir with the Governor of Riyadh area, Prince Salman Bin Abdul Aziz (second right).



Kuwait's Acting Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, yesterday met Ireland's Health Minister (fourth, left). The meeting was attended by Kuwait's Health Minister, Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak (right).

Maltreated labourers refuse to return to work

Arab Times report

THIRTY-TWO maltreated Indian labourers are ready to return home rather than go back to their job if mediators fail to get a firm assurance of their safety at work. These employees of Al Ajami Trading and Contracting Company have been staying at the Indian embassy since March 14.

An embassy official said they are "not willing to return to work" unless they are "confident they won't be ill-treated."

"Now they are uncertain of what will happen if they go back to work and are urging mediators to create an atmosphere of trust," he said.

Some of the workers were beaten up and others were harassed. Their main complaint is non-payment of the salary stipulated in their contract, which was attested by the Indian embassy before they arrived in Kuwait eight months ago.

"They (the labourers) are mentally prepared to accept all consequences, even going back to India," said one official.

Negotiating

Embassy officials, reluctant to release details of negotiations, said they failed to reach a settlement despite marathon talks with the employers. The labourers want the employers to stick to the terms of the contract. Apparently there is a difference of opinion and lack of communication between the mainly Kerala workers and the employers about "the stipulated salary" as stated in the contract and that which is actually being paid to the workers.

"Their (the labourers) basic desire is to see that their contracts are honoured," said an official.

Though talks broke down several times in five days, officials and mediators believe that there is still hope of settling the dispute amicably.

"We are still negotiating. We hope to reach some sort of decision today," said the embassy official.

"We tried our best to sort out the problems," he added.

Woman files suit against doctors

A WOMAN from Ras Al Khaima, United Arab Emirates, has sued three doctors at Saqer Hospital for approximately \$180,000 for health and material damages incurred while under their care.

The woman's lawyer said the doctors, all female, had performed a Caesarean section operation on the woman during her pregnancy which resulted in damage to her kidneys and the removal of her uterus, among other complications.

Because of her health the woman also was fired from her place of employment.

12 accidents

A MOTORCYCLIST was injured yesterday when his motorcycle collided with a car on the Sixth Ring Road.

There were 12 traffic accidents in Kuwait, four in Jahra and two in Hawalli.

League delegation

MOSCOW, March 19, (Agencies): An Arab League delegation led by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi left Moscow today after a two-day visit, the official Soviet news agency Tass said.

Accommodation for teachers

THE Director of Teacher Housing Affairs at the Ministry of Education Atefeh Badran said the department is responsible for the accommodation of 1,392 expatriate teachers. She said 54 hostels are used to house these teachers, most of whom are Egyptian.

She said that 31 of the hostels were located on school grounds and lacked many conveniences. Hostels provide living facilities for unmarried and married teachers who do not have their husbands in Kuwait, she said and

supervisors are appointed to organise living arrangements and to handle problems that arise in the hostels.

Because many of the hostels are located outside of Kuwait City, transportation is provided from the hostels twice a week to allow teachers to shop in the capital, she added.

Private housing for teachers was established in the mid-40s, Badran said, adding that in 1980-1981 housing was provided for 2,120 teachers. She said the number of expatriate teachers has decreased because of the increase in Kuwaiti female teachers.

Dental Health Week

KUWAIT'S Minister of Public Health Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak will open Dental Health Week today, which is organised by the Kuwait Dentists Society.

An exhibition on oral hygiene will be held by the society throughout the week.

New Muslims

FIFTY-ONE men and women embraced Islam in Riyadh recently. During a ceremony held with the chairman of the Saudi Department of Research, Fatwa, Dawa and Guidance, it was announced that this number, with people from Asia, Africa and Europe had converted to Islam.

Amir receives Prince Salman

HH the Amir yesterday received visiting Amir of Riyadh Salman Bin Abdul Aziz, and the accompanying delegation.

The audience was attended by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed, the governor of the capital, head of the protocol mission, Sheikh Jaber Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah, and the ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Kuwait, and Kuwait's ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

The Amir yesterday evening hosted a dinner banquet in his palace at Dasman in honour of Prince Salman and his accompanying delegation.

Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed paid a courtesy visit to Prince Salman.

Prince Salman, who is being hosted at Al Salam Palace, was also visited yesterday evening by Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah.

Prince Salman and the accompanying delegation arrived on a visit to Kuwait yesterday.

At the airport, Prince Salman was received by State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed and Kuwaiti senior officials in addition to Saudi ambassador to Kuwait.

Kuwait-Irish health talks

TALKS on health cooperation between Kuwait and Ireland began yesterday when the health ministers of the two countries met.

The talks between Dr. Abdul Razzak from Kuwait and Dr. Rory O'Hanlon centred on cooperation in training doctors in various medicine fields and medical services.

The Irish minister, who arrived here last night leading a delegation, will be given a special tour around Kuwaiti hospitals and will be looking at the latest medical technology which Kuwait has gained.

O'Hanlon's visit is scheduled for two days.

UK education mission to visit Kuwait

A BRITISH education mission representing 12 universities and two polytechnics in Britain will visit Kuwait from March 21 to 23.

Members of the mission will be available for consultation at the Sheraton Hotel between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm on March 21, and between 4 pm and 8 pm on March 22-23. They will answer questions and give information and advice to anyone interested in studying in Britain or sending their children to study there.

The group is led by the Dean of the Science Faculty at Glasgow University, Professor David Sharp.

The universities are: Glasgow, Aberdeen, Bradford, Bristol, Essex, Keele, Kent, Nottingham, Reading, Sheffield, Strathclyde and Warwick. The polytechnics are South Bank and North-East London.

For further information contact the Education Adviser, Mrs Kate Harries, at the British Council, tel 2515512, 2533204 or 2533227.



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ANNOUNCEMENT



Ashraf & Co. Ltd. declares to all its customers and concerned parties that Mr. Jawaid Iqbal, ex-General Manager resigned as of March 3, 1988. He has no longer any official or unofficial relation with the Company. The Company warns all concerned that it is no longer responsible for any financial or commercial dealings executed on its behalf by the said person as of March 3, 1988.

Mr. Abdul Aziz Khalid Al-Abdullaziz is now in charge of all activities and dealings of the Company.

British Standards

There are now more than 10,000 British Standards publications covering a wide range of products and services. Each year 700 new or revised standards are issued.

A complete set of British Standards is available for reference in the Commercial Department of the British Embassy. Copies of individual standards may be purchased.

For further details telephone the Commercial Department on 2439220/1/2/4.

مركز المصالح

TO the Arab artist Afaf Zayak, her drawings, recently shown in the UK, are an expression of her memories about the Lebanon she remembers before the civil war and the Israeli invasion. They also show glimpses of the future Lebanon she yearns for.

Zayak, in a recent interview with Kuna, said her drawings reflect the "tremendous optimism about the future."

"If so much tolerance and so much love and so much peace could have happened in Lebanon it means it can always happen anywhere, anytime. It is just that you have to work for it," Afaf says.

With a clear and undistorted artistic expression, Afaf draws her memories of the 25 years

Images of pre-war Lebanon

she lived in Lebanon before the civil war started. Her drawings are a photo-album of her life. She described them as "semi-abstract drawings of her spiritual and physical experiences in Lebanon."

The drawings range from images of the building she lived in as a child to the mountains and the beaches she enjoyed. Images of the American University of Beirut are an intrinsic part of the artist's work.

The drawings bear names of

areas and places in Lebanon, seasons and aspects of nature. They also reflect experiences, emotions and thoughts like in the three drawings — innocence, fantasy and dreams.

Afaf now lives in Washington. She earned her masters degree in Islamic art from Harvard University and taught fine arts and art history at the Beirut University College.

Afaf's drawings capture the accumulative feelings her past experience evoke. For instance, the distant smell of the sea and

the immediate smell of dust mixed with the very sharp contrasts of shades of light as well as the singing of birds in the early morning.

Afaf relies on the sense of sound and the visual beauty of sight. By using a wave of just one colour like purple against a white space, she creates a single tone in what appears to be absolute quietness. In one of her drawings, a stroke of colour represents the sound of a horn of a car at a time the city is sound asleep.

Afaf uses ink on paper with watercolours in all her drawings, shown at a recent exhibition in Washington. The artist does not view her work "as belonging to, or influenced by, this or that artistic school or style."

She dislikes "conscious application of any method" in her work. She has studied hard, worked hard and exposed herself to so much in the world of art that she no longer can tell what forces are at work when she draws. She says her work is probably the outcome of the many elements that shape her personality.

Afaf's work echoes some principles of Islamic art like the repetition of forms and the relationship of images.

Bangladesh School prize distribution

THE Bangladesh School, Kuwait, students on Friday received their awards from Ambassador K.M. Shehabuddin at the annual prize distribution ceremony.

A group of children presented a colourful variety show. A dance performed by Khadija Akhtar was well-received by the audience. Farhana Haque and Samina Rahman sang for parents, guests and teachers attending the show. Poetry was recited by Rizwana Rahman; Kamal Hussain and Riza Al Karim, took part in a humorous sketch.

Farhah, Amira, Khadija, Asnubha, Laila, Jasmin, Rehana, Selina, Shamima, Asfi, Shamima, Shahmina and Rizwana participated in the musical sketch entitled



The prize-winners pictured with school staff and embassy officials.

"Rupamayi Bangla." And Imrul Qais presented a "news report."

School principal Mrs Zakera Rahman presented the annual

report. About 100 children study at the school, established in 1982.

This year, six students are appearing for their secondary school certificate exams. The

event was held at the auditorium of Ibn Taimiah Secondary School, Hassawi.

(Photos by Javed Basra)

Arabs form cultural trust fund in UK

tion gives financial support to writers and researchers working on books on social, political, economic and cultural life in the Arab world.

Dr Hasseeb said the trust fund accepts contributions from philanthropic groups and individuals.

He said the fund was formed to "continue to back Arab organisation" and save time and effort of organising fund-raising campaigns.

The Arab Cultural Foundation is an independent and non-political corporation. It was registered in UK and is administered by an independent board of trustees which supports Arab groups in need for financial assistance.

The board comprises El Akhdar El Ibrahim, Algeria; Dr Hasseeb, Iraq; Dr Salim Al Hoss, Lebanon; Abdel Mohsen Al Qattan, Palestine and Dr Hassanain Haikal, Egypt.

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.32 am
Zuhr	11.55
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.00
Isha	7.17

HOTELS

At the Meridian

Kiwi Festival features the fruit in cocktails, salads, main courses and pastries. The promotion is being held in La Brasserie, Al Waha and Al Fingyan. The festival ends on April 3. La Brasserie offers extensive buffet and a la carte for lunch. Also open for dinner.

At the Sheraton

Dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the Trio Paradise. For lunch the Hunt Room offers a la carte. Every Sunday enjoy Lebanese cuisine in "Tarbouche on the Roof" in the Al Hambra restaurant. Entertainment is provided by the World Machine Band.

At the Hilton

The all-day dining restaurant, La Palma, offers Oriental, Continental and international cuisine, as well as a large array of sweets and desserts. Open for lunch and dinner. A full American buffet breakfast is available from 6.30 am to 11 am. Open daily from 6.30 am to midnight.

At the SAS

The Peacock Room offers Chinese dining from Peking to Szechuan daily for lunch and dinner, except Saturday. At Boom is one of the exciting eating places in town. The restaurant on the traditional show offers Oriental and Western cuisine for dinner, nightly.

SPORTS

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Sports Festival for Children

A sports festival for Bangladeshi children will be held on April 8. For details contact 4840759; 4710306; 5716586; 3903605. All Bangladeshis are welcome.

Inter-school Knockout '88

A series of sports and games featuring student and teacher teams from Kuwait's schools will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel. For details contact the hotel. Poolside barbecue and dinner for spectators.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Ma'laeb: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 Ghadab Al Sahara: part 16; Arabic serial; starring Abdul Rahman Al Rish, Sahar Rami, Talhath Hamdi
- 5.30 Al Manahil: children's serial, featuring Amal Dabbas, Tayseer Attiya, Rabe'a Shihab
- 6.00 Songs and Music
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Cultural Programme Diwanat Shuara Al Nabat: poetry session
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Surq Al Simt: part 17; Arabic serial, featuring Sana Jamil, Hamdi Ghalith, Anwar Ismael, Mimi Jamal

- 10.50 Ahmad Badr. show: "Mashawir Al Kabuli." An evening of music with Sudanese singer Abdul Karim Kabuli. Presented by Amina Al Sharrah
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 World News via Satellite
- 12.40 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 3.00 Holy Quran
- 3.40 Cartoons
- 3.45 American Basketball Dallas vs Utah
- 5.10 Highlights of Italian Football matches
- 6.10 The Lone Ranger: "The Abduction of Tom Sawyer". The Lone Ranger recovers a stolen book.
- 6.30 Butterfly Island: a wealthy businessman comes to the island and declares his intention to buy the place.
- 7.00 Understanding

Islam: a local programme on Islamic philosophy; hosted by Arafat Al Ashi.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Adderly: "Nemesis". Someone tries to kill Adderly, who believes that a man from Latin America is behind the attempted murder.

9.30 He's the Mayor: a comedy about a man elected as mayor of a small American town.

10.00 TV Bloopers and Practical Jokes: a half-hour show of bloopers made by film personalities.

10.30 Best-Seller: Space. This best-seller is based on James Michener's novel. John faces problems at home and at work.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio News
- 30 Musical Masters of the Baroque (ex 13th Play of the Week: Remembrance)
- 0100 News Summary (ex 13th) followed by Play of the Week: 6th The Browning Version; 12th Remembrance contd.; 20th From the Lion Rock; 27th Happy Families
- 0200 World News
- 09 The Sunday Papers
- 15 Canary Row
- 30 Album Time
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Yes Mister
- 0400 News
- 30 Capriccio (ex 27th The Seven Ages of Man)
- 45 Reflections
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary

- 30 Chain Reaction (ex 27th The Wondrous Cross)
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 News
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 45 Book Choice
- 30 Waveguide
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 The Pleasure's Yours
- 0900 World News
- 09 The Sunday Papers
- 15 Science in Action
- 45 Education Today (ex 6th A Hobbs — or a Way of Life)
- 1000 News Summary followed by Short Story
- 15 Classical Record Review
- 30 Religious Service
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent (ex 27th The Wondrous Cross)
- 30 Musical Masters of the Baroque (ex 13th Play of the Week: Remembrance)
- 1200 News Summary (ex 13th) followed by Play of the Week: 6th The Browning Version; 12th

Remembrance contd.: 20th From the Lion Rock; 27th Happy Families

1300 World News

09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

30 Sports Roundup

45 The Saudi Jones Request Show including at 1400 News Summary

1430 Yes Minister

ALL TIMES GMT

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1100 Country 'n' Western
- 1200 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 French Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Arabic Songs and Music
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery
Egyptian artist Magdi Kenawy is showing his latest collection of lithographs and prints at the gallery in Salihiya Complex. The exhibition is open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8 pm, until March 31.

Sultan Gallery
An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yasmeen Bhamini will be held at the gallery, Al Soor St., from March 28. It will be open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Kuwait Players present "Wait Until Dark," a suspense drama by Frederick Knott, directed by Mike Consden, starring Jennifer Gatland and Derrick Hicks. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa, at 8 pm on March 28, 29, 30, 31. For reservations phone 5657749; 5332568.

CINEMA

British Council
Feature film "The Emerald Forest," a production by John Boorman, is the mystical story of a young white boy spirited away by a tribe and then initiated into manhood and full membership. Elements of magic, fantasy, myth and anthropological fact are introduced in this story. It will be shown tonight at 6.30 pm at the British Council premises in Mansouriya. Admission free but it is advisable to make reservations. Tel: 2515512.

EDUCATION

Higher Education in UK Exhibition
Representatives from universities all over Britain will be present to give expert advice on courses and admissions procedures from March 21 to 23 at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel. A wide selection of information on undergraduate and post-graduate study will be available. The exhibition will be open on Monday, March 21, from 4 to 6 pm; Tuesday, March 22, 4 to 8 pm and Wednesday, March 23, 4 to 8 pm. For more information contact Education Adviser, British Council, 2 Al Ar, St. Mansouriya. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

MUSIC

Rock 'n' Romance
Kuwait Players present Rock 'n' Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch, opens tonight, 8 pm, at the Regency Palace Hotel. Directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas. It features music by Eric Clapton, Dire Straits, Elton John, Chopin and others. Repeat performances are at 8 pm on March 21, 22, 23 and at 3 pm and 8 pm on March 24. For details call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745838.

Jazz Concert

The American jazz band, the Kevin Eubanks Trio, will give a concert at the Kuwait University Sports Stadium in Shuwaikh, on Tuesday, March 22, at 7.30 pm. All are welcome, no admission fee, no reserved seats.

Musical Nite

Funkada, a local music group, will hold Rang Trang, a musical nite, on March 24, 7.30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Hall. Entrance is by invitations only. Contact the organisers for details.

SOCIAL

Get-acquainted Social Gathering

All Bangladeshi computer professionals are invited to a get-acquainted social gathering. For details phone 2411610 (7 am to 1 pm); 4841748 (4-8 pm); 3714096 (4-8 pm).

May Queen

The May Queen will be crowned at a special event which will be held on May 16 at the Sheraton Hotel. Highlight of the evening will be a fashion show featuring clothes designed by Tapati Ray. Two local bands — Stepping Stones and City Limits — will provide entertainment. The event is being organised by the Kuwait Goans Association.

Weekend Club

The Club will host "Summer Queen '88" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Regency Palace Hotel. The highlight of the evening will be the crowning of the Summer Queen '88 by last year's winner. Musical entertainment will be by Next of Kin and Top Ranks with Adolf performing latest numbers.

Filipino Get-together

The next "kumustahan" (get-together) will be held on Saturday, March 26, in the Church Hall. All Filipinos are invited. Free snacks will be served. Admission free.

HOTELS

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Kiwi Festival features the fruit in cocktails, salads, main courses and pastries. The promotion is being held in La Brasserie, Al Waha and Al Fingyan. The festival ends on April 3. La Brasserie offers extensive buffet and a la carte for lunch. Also open for dinner.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE most manifest sign of wisdom is continued cheerfulness — Michel Montaigne, French essayist (1533-1592).

Geneva talks

Future of Kremlin policy also at stake

By Carol J. Williams

MOSCOW, (AP): The Soviet Union's apparent willingness to pull its troops out of Afghanistan may signal a broader change in policy toward Soviet involvement in foreign revolutions, some analysts believe.

Should Moscow find an acceptable retreat from Afghanistan, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would lead one of his nation's most visible foreign policy moves. He also could improve relations with the United States, China, the Indian subcontinent and the Muslim world.

Some observers suggest that the Kremlin might also be rethinking its role in socialist revolutions in nations like Nicaragua and Angola, where Soviet aid bolsters government forces against tenacious opposition.

Since the Kremlin announced last year that it had taken the "political decision" to withdraw its troops from the Afghan war, the state-run media and officials have dropped a few hints that the broader policies that led to the invasion are under close scrutiny.

Doomed
A leading economist said in a letter published Wednesday in a Moscow newspaper that he warned the Kremlin less than a month after the Afghan intervention that the action was doomed and that it posed dire consequences for international relations.

Oleg T. Bogomolov, head of the Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System, said he reported Jan. 20, 1980, that sending Soviet soldiers to Afghanistan damaged relations with the United States, China and Muslim nations.

While Marxist doctrine forecasts the spread of socialist revolution worldwide, Gorbachev has made clear that his first priority is getting his own nation's economy on its feet.

The government has indicated that it will fulfill certain commitments to Afghanistan, even after a Soviet withdrawal. Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told reporters on Tuesday that military aid to Afghanistan was not subject to negotiation because it was part of longstanding Soviet cooperation with Kabul.

However, some American Sovietologists and veteran

foreign policy experts see what could be the emergence of a general policy of scaling back in the interests of improving relations with other nations and directing resources to domestic needs.

"I see them moving toward a different approach to regional conflict," former US Defense Secretary Robert McNamara told the Associated Press in an interview. "I get the distinct impression they are changing substantially their view of the projection of power, in part on the basis of their experience in Afghanistan, as in the United States we were affected by our experience in Vietnam."

McNamara, in Moscow this week for a conference on Soviet reforms, served as defense secretary in the 1960s, during the height of the Vietnam war, under presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson.

If Gorbachev's stated sentiment for focusing time and money on improving the Soviet lifestyle is genuine, McNamara suggested, he will find it expedient to reduce Soviet involvement in struggles between pro-and anti-communist forces.

He pointed to civil warfare in Nicaragua and Angola as examples where Gorbachev may be willing to step out if the United States did likewise.

Robert Legvold, director of Columbia University's Harriman Institute for Advanced Study of the Soviet Union, accompanied a US Senate delegation to a three-hour meeting with Gorbachev last week.

He said he is convinced Gorbachev and his advisers have made a commitment to "cut their losses" in Afghanistan and have already begun a serious analysis of how the mistake of intervening was made.

"There is a feeling it was a lousy decision in all contexts — in US-Soviet relations, in relations with Arab countries, in Sino-Soviet relations," Legvold said.

The key move in working toward an Afghan peace accord was an end to Soviet insistence that the post-war government retain its current socialist character, Legvold said. Failure now in Geneva, where a UN-mediated peace accord is held up by Pakistani demands for a transitional government in Kabul, could damage efforts to reform foreign policy and relations with the West, he said.

Pollsters question Bush's strength

By Gary Langer

NEW YORK (AP): Vice President George Bush may have a virtual lock on the Republican US presidential nomination, but his prospects for winning the election in November are far less assured, poll analysts say.

Some polls indicate that Senator Bob Dole, Bush's all-but-unquestioned opponent, could be as strong or stronger as Bush in the fall. Dole has argued that he would be more likely than Bush to win the US presidency if nominated.

Bush "has certain weaknesses vis-a-vis Dole," said Doug Muzzio, an ABC television network poll analyst. While the flaws are not decisive, "it certainly indicates he's not a prohibitive favorite to beat a Democrat," Muzzio said.

One potential problem is Bush's failure thus far to win strong backing of independents. While Bush swept the Republicans in Illinois on Tuesday, Dole won 46 per cent of the independents voting in the Republican primary, to 42 per cent for Bush, ABC's exit poll said.

Minority
Because Republicans are a minority of the nation's electorate, "if Bush is going to win the general election he's got to start attracting independent voters," said Warren Mitofsky, chief of polling at the CBS television network.

Dole also has shown more potential appeal to Democrats. A poll by the NBC television network and the Wall Street Journal late last month said 24 per cent of Democrats might consider supporting Dole for president, to just 9 per cent for Bush.

Both Bush and Dole have been roughly even with Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis in hypothetical contests. In surveys by Louis Harris and Associates on Feb. 18-23, Time magazine March 10, and Newsweek March 10-11, a USA Today newspaper poll March 9 also put Bush in a tie with Dukakis; a Dole-Dukakis race was not proposed.

Stronger
Bush did better in hypothetical contests against other potential Democratic nominees, and analysts said he is likely to be perceived as stronger as his primary victories mount.

At the same time, Bush at the moment has the advantage of being better known than the Democrats, and that, too, is likely to change. And he may lose the bulk of undecided voters, who typically turn against an incumbent, said David Clemm of the Gordon S. Black Corp. polling firm.

Exit polls on Bush's support in Illinois revealed "little change in his armour," said Sheldon Gawiser, a poll analyst for NBC news, while 55 per cent of Republican voters said Bush was tough enough to be a good president, 24 per cent said he was not and 21 per cent were not sure, Gawiser noted.

Also, while 30 per cent said Bush would be a very strong leader, 42 per cent said somewhat strong, 16 per cent said not very strong, 6 per cent did not know. Neither result showed the confidence that may be expected in such a strong front-runner's own party, Gawiser said.

Similarly, among the 23 per cent of Republicans who said leadership was a key issue, ABC News found that Dole and Bush split the vote.

Arabs conscious of the power of the media

Palestinians wage battle for hearts and minds

By Jeffrey Barbolet

SAMOA, West Bank, (Reuters): Standing amid the burning tyres and scattered stones of a day's battle, the young Palestinian thought it was time for a news conference.

"We suffer from a shortage of press coverage here," he lamented, watching Palestinian flags flutter from electric wires. "Sometimes, we do something and we see no journalists at all."

Damage

Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied areas, in the fourth month of an uprising, have become increasingly conscious of the power of the media.

They fight, as the young man in Samoa said, with or without the press. But both Palestinians and Israelis acknowledge that the

battle for world public opinion is an important element of the conflict.

"From a political point of view, there is a lot of damage to Israel because we are dependent almost entirely on public opinion in the United States and Europe," said Israeli reporter Danny Rubenstein, who has long covered the occupied West Bank.

With this in mind, a small army of Palestinian tipsters, bulletin writers and telephonists keep foreign and Israeli reporters abreast of rapidly developing events.

Their information is often faster and more detailed than the sparse reports issued by the Israeli Army spokesman's office.

"You may get information quickly from Palestinian sources but the Israeli Army has to be absolutely accurate when it

reports an incident. That takes time," said Major Ofra Preuss, the Army's foreign press liaison officer.

Journalists — out of touch with villages like Samoa — often depend for news of demonstrations on the Palestine Press Service (PPS), an agency with contacts and volunteers throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Censorship

The PPS which supports the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), was founded with two journalists in 1979.

It now has 10 regular staff, as well as many trainees, and is planning to provide an electronic mailbox service to allow subscribers access to information by computer.

Despite Israeli censorship,

Palestinian publications manage to promote a nationalist political agenda.

PPS director Elias Zamaniri says the international impact of the uprising is not a matter of successful public relations.

"It's not a question of who is distributing the news, the question is the severity of events," he said. "The brutality of the soldiers has brought the Palestinian issue into every house in the West."

At least 91 Palestinians have been killed since widespread unrest began on Dec 9.

By the same measure, the Palestinian hijacking of an Israeli bus on March 7, in which three hostages were killed along with three gunmen, sent a different message to the West.

The image of the gun-toting, stubble-chinned Palestinian com-

mando, which may have been fading from public memory, returned to the headlines.

While the world decried the hijacking, some Palestinian demonstrators were inspired by it.

War

The incident showed another face of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict — a bloody war between two communities for the same piece of land.

Despite a flair for media relations, Palestinian protesters have not always welcomed foreign reporters.

Journalists, sometimes suspected of working for Israeli Intelligence, have been stoned by demonstrators. Youths have broken car windows and electronic equipment and have threatened reporters.

More often, however, Pal-

estiniens are anxious to aid reporters. On several occasions they have helped them evade Israeli roadblocks intended to prevent first-hand coverage of demonstrations.

The young Palestinian in Samoa, brown eyes peering between the gap in a black and white keffiyeh headscarf, declared his home "a liberated Palestinian area" for television cameras.

When journalists made him repeat the statement three times in English, he lost his temper.

To keep Israelis out of the village, children and old women tore down limestone walls and rebuilt roadblocks that Israeli soldiers had cleared only hours before.

But when they realised a press car was still in Samoa, villagers helped journalists remove the rocks so they could leave.

Signs of glasnost are few in Cuba

By Gilles Trequesser

HAVANA, (Reuters): President Fidel Castro was quick to answer the US television reporter.

"Glasnost in Cuba?" he said. "It has always existed."

But Castro's reply during a recent three-hour interview raised many more questions, according to Havana-based Western analysts.

Observers of communist Cuba have long speculated that Castro would have to adopt, perhaps reluctantly, some of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's ideas about "glasnost" (openness) and "perestroika" (economic restructuring).

But Western analysts, diplomats and long-time residents here agreed that Castro's assertion notwithstanding, signs of a "tropical glasnost" are few.

"There is no real glasnost here, although some of its effects may be felt among intellectuals," a high-ranking Western diplomat said.

The question, he said, was to

what extent Cuban leaders could allow society to open up without risking the possibility that it would crack altogether.

"How do you relax this regime, without paying the cost of relaxing?" he asked.

"Cubans are floating ideas, in the press, at party grassroot level, sending feelers. Castro is obviously waiting to see what will happen in the Soviet Union," another Western envoy said.

Rectification

Recent riots and protests in the Soviet republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia — reported here, albeit briefly, in the official media — highlighted some risks and unintended effects of opening up, the sources said.

Cuban government officials seem fidgety when publicly asked about glasnost and perestroika.

The official line, as Castro put it in the interview with the US television network NBC, broadcast here twice in 48 hours, is that the road chosen by Gorbachev did not necessarily apply to non-aligned Cuba.

"The Soviets made their own

errors. They try to apply Soviet formulas to Soviet problems and we try to find Cuban solutions to Cuban problems," he said.

Under Castro's guidance, Cuba began a so-called "campaign of rectification of errors and negative tendencies" in 1986, a bid to root out inefficiency, bureaucracy and corruption.

But rectification is not the same as perestroika, said Cuban government officials, stressing that attempts at imitation often end in mistakes.

Rectification quickly became the password of Cuban politics. Not a day went by without a media mention of an aspect of society being "rectified."

Castro urged the press to be more critical. But, as one journalist put it, "it has to be constructive criticism, within the revolution, not against the revolution."

On the economic front, rectification meant a clampdown on peasant's free markets that had begun to emerge.

It also brought to an end to the economic decentralisation, when

the government realised that firm managers, inexperienced in marketing outside of state-controlled channels, were wasting a lot of money.

This ran counter to perestroika, which is granting greater autonomy to Soviet industrial managers and making firms responsible for their costs.

Cubans caught a glimpse of what perestroika meant when Soviet deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Kamenev made a well-publicised tour of the island in January, visiting all the Soviet-funded programmes.

Money
"Moscow is making sure it knows where its money is going and that all existing projects will be completed," a Western economic expert said.

He noted that Kamenev, who is also chairman of the Cuban-Soviet Mixed Commission, stressed in an interview published here that "the principles of fraternal and international aid which the USSR gives Cuba in terms of economic ties will be maintained under perestroika."

Baghdad stays calm amid deadly war of the cities

By Philip Shehadi

BAGHDAD, (Reuters): Minutes after a missile hits, the rooftops of Baghdad fill with black-robed women and men in suits scanning the horizon for signs for smoke.

Birds shriek in frantic circles overhead. Telephone calls crisscross the city as Baghdadis consult: How loud was it? Do you know where it fell? Is the family all right?

The deadly three-week-old "war of the cities" between Iraq and Iran puts much of this city of four million people on edge with each thud of a landing Iranian missile.

But the tension appears to vanish quickly and Baghdad reverts to a remarkable calm, toughened perhaps by 7 1/2 years of war.

In delectable spring weather, lovers stroll along the banks of the Tigris, muddy and swollen after the heaviest rains in 30 years.

Soldiers, identifiable only by their close cropped hair, pour out of downtown cinemas on their weekend home leave.

Normal

Young Iraqi men not at home watching their national soccer team snatch the Gulf Soccer Cup in Riyadh on Friday play their own game in the wide grass fields of Zawra Park.

"This is the way we live. There have been a number of rockets thrown at Baghdad but yet life is normal," Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi told Reuters.

"Things never change because

we don't care. Birds possibly just for a few minutes fly hectorally but life's normal everywhere."

Iran has rocketed Baghdad with some 30 missiles since February 29 while Iraq has slammed around 100 into Tehran and other Iranian cities in an attempt to force its Gulf war foe to accept a United Nations ceasefire call.

Tehran says more than 300 Iranian civilians have been killed and over 1,000 wounded in the cities war.

Iraq does not release casualty figures but Western diplomats there put total casualties at a low 50 dead or wounded. Baghdad residents too say most Iranian missiles land away from the centre, cutting the toll and contributing to the casual air.

"It's annoying to get jolted out of bed at night," said 20-year-old taxi driver Mahmoud. "But we're used to it now."

Fleeing

Residents say there have been only isolated cases of people fleeing to escape the danger, unlike the southern city of Basra where unremitting Iranian shelling has emptied many areas.

Baghdadis in many parts of the city express impatience with the war's duration but exude confidence, at least in public. "The Army is strong, morale is high. All Iraqis together are steadfast," said Fouad, a university student visiting friends in a bustling market near the historic Kazhemiyyah mosque.

Kazhemiyyah is the burial place of two imams of the Shi'ite Muslim sect and Iran has declared it safe from attack.

Residents there say they sometimes do not even hear the bombardments "which almost daily, over the last three weeks, have underlined to citizens elsewhere in the capital the closeness of war."

The arrival of spring eased the winter-long threat of a big new Iranian offensive against Basra, and in another month scorching heat will all but rule it out until November.

Trouble

Western diplomats say Iran appears beset by internal issues and has had trouble mobilising enough men. Unprecedented diplomatic support abroad and a clear edge in the air and missile war have also boosted Iraqi morale.

"There is a confidence that wasn't there before," a diplomat said. "With its new missiles, Iraq has been able to equalise an advantage the Iranians previously had."

Diplomats and military analysts believe Iraq is firing Soviet Scud-B ground-to-ground missiles, modified with boosters to bring Tehran, 600 km (375 miles) away, within range for the first time. Iran has said that malfunctioning missiles recovered in Tehran showed the warhead reduced to one-fifth of the design payload.

Fire

Iran has long been able to fire ordinary Scud-B's into Baghdad from the battlefield less than 160 km (100 miles) to the east. But diplomats say the relatively slow pace of Iran's reprisals suggests it could be nearing the end of its stockpile.

Iran has stepped up shelling of border towns and poured more troops into battle on the northern front.

Adding to an air of ease in Baghdad is the improved availability of many goods following economic liberalisation measures adopted last year. To boost the private sector role in a socialist economy, price controls were lifted on fruits and vegetables and traders given free reign to import with their own hard currency.

Heaps of turnips, tomatoes, potatoes, squash and greens clog the narrow alleys of the Kazhemiyyah market while once-scarce spare parts and Western clothes are appearing in shops, residents say.

Shortages of staples common in 1986 have eased with the recovery of oil revenues, the main source of revenue and economic well-being.

Diplomats say that thanks to higher oil production the country may pull in as much as \$14 billion oil revenue this year, double the 1986 level.

Shultz deadline passes

Outlook bleak for US peace plan

By Barry Schweld

WASHINGTON, (AP): The mid-March deadline set by Secretary of State George Shultz for Arab and Israeli replies to his Mideast peace plan is passing with the outlook for eventual acceptance bleak.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir wound up four days of talks on Thursday critical of Shultz's call for an international conference.

He didn't say yes and he didn't say no to the plan, which also anticipates Israeli yielding at least part of the West Bank and Gaza in exchange for Arab recognition.

But most of what Shamir had to say during his visit was critical of the proposal — especially its call for an international conference hosted by the United States, the Soviet Union and the three other permanent members of the UN Security Council: China, Britain and France.

The other major player in the Shultz scenario, King Hussein of Jordan, has not replied to the US plan. A Jordanian official, speaking this week in Amman on condition of anonymity, said he doubted there would be a definitive response for 10 days.

An indication of Arab reservations came Thursday from Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's representative in

Washington. He criticised the exclusion of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and urged the United States to demand a total Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

At least 100 Palestinian Arabs have died in a little more than three months in clashes with Israeli forces. Shultz's proposal would lead to self-rule for three years, with negotiations on an overall settlement to begin by December.

Israel took control of the territories from Jordan and Egypt in the 1967 six-day war. Shamir and other Likud Bloc leaders have vowed not to surrender any of the land.

Withdrawal

Shultz submitted his plan for negotiations two weeks ago to Israel, Jordan and also Syria, which would participate in the talks on an overall settlement. He asked for a reply by mid-March.

"As you know, I, in general, think that deadlines are good things in trying to get people to make up their minds," Shultz told reporters on his Mideast shuttle. "So we have pointed out the fact that the situation carries inherent in it a certain sense of deadlines."

And yet, Shultz noted philosophically, "you can't push people if they don't want to be pushed."

Shamir headed for Los

Angeles from Washington. He and the other senior members of the Israeli cabinet will take up the US proposal on Wednesday. A vote by the full cabinet would be likely on Sunday, March 27.

If Israel and Jordan both say yes by then, the Shultz plan could take off. But there would be little room, if any, to make changes.

President Ronald Reagan and Shultz both have ruled out revisions. Reagan said he would neither "alter" the plan nor abandon it. Shultz told the Senate Budget Committee on Thursday, "the United States will not permit any aspect of its proposal to be eroded or compromised."

But Shamir clearly is hoping for at least one major change. He wants to replace the international conference with a "ceremony" held by the United States and the Soviet Union. Afterwards, Israel and the Arabs would negotiate directly.

Shultz is trying to win Shamir over with reassurances.

He told the Senate Committee after a final meeting with the prime minister that the United States would not attend — or remain — at a conference designed to replace direct Arab-Israeli negotiations.

"The conference will be specifically enjoined from imposing solutions or vetoing what had been agreed bilaterally," Shultz said.

Vassiliou impresses on first foreign visit

By Granville Watts

ATHENS, (Reuters): Cyprus President George Vassiliou ended his first official visit to Athens on Thursday and diplomats and analysts rated it a solid success.

He had proclaimed his five-day visit as a means of getting acquainted with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and the Greek political leadership following his election last month.

"The two hit it off immediately. They have already built a good basis for future progress," one Greek analyst said.

Vassiliou, a 56-year-old millionaire economist, was virtually a political unknown a year ago.

He promised more flexibility in negotiations over the Cyprus problem when he replaced President Spyros Kyprianou who during 11 years in office became identified with the stalemate in the Cyprus situation.

The new Cyprus leader was quick to acknowledge the change

in the climate of Greek-Turkish relations following Papandreu's recent meetings with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in Switzerland and Brussels.

Cypriot officials said the Cyprus debate in the UN General Assembly in May is likely to be called off by Cyprus to give the new relationship a chance to influence the island situation.

They said everything will now await the outcome of Ozal's planned visit to Athens in June for more talks with Papandreu. Vassiliou has requested a meeting with Ozal which Ankara has rejected but Greek political commentators said it was possible such a meeting could take place during Ozal's Athens visit.

Complicating

Although Vassiliou seemed happy with the improved Greek-Turkish relations he was careful to express continuing Greek-Cypriot concern over the presence of 29,000 Turkish troops and an estimated 60,000 Turkish settlers in northern Cyprus following the 1974 invasion.

He said Cyprus should be

prepared to defend itself and accused the Turks at an Athens banquet of "intransigence, arrogance and insatiable appetite."

Vassiliou said it would not be difficult for Greek and Turkish Cypriots to solve their problems but Turkey "is complicating matters and blocking the road for an understanding and a viable and lasting settlement of the problem."

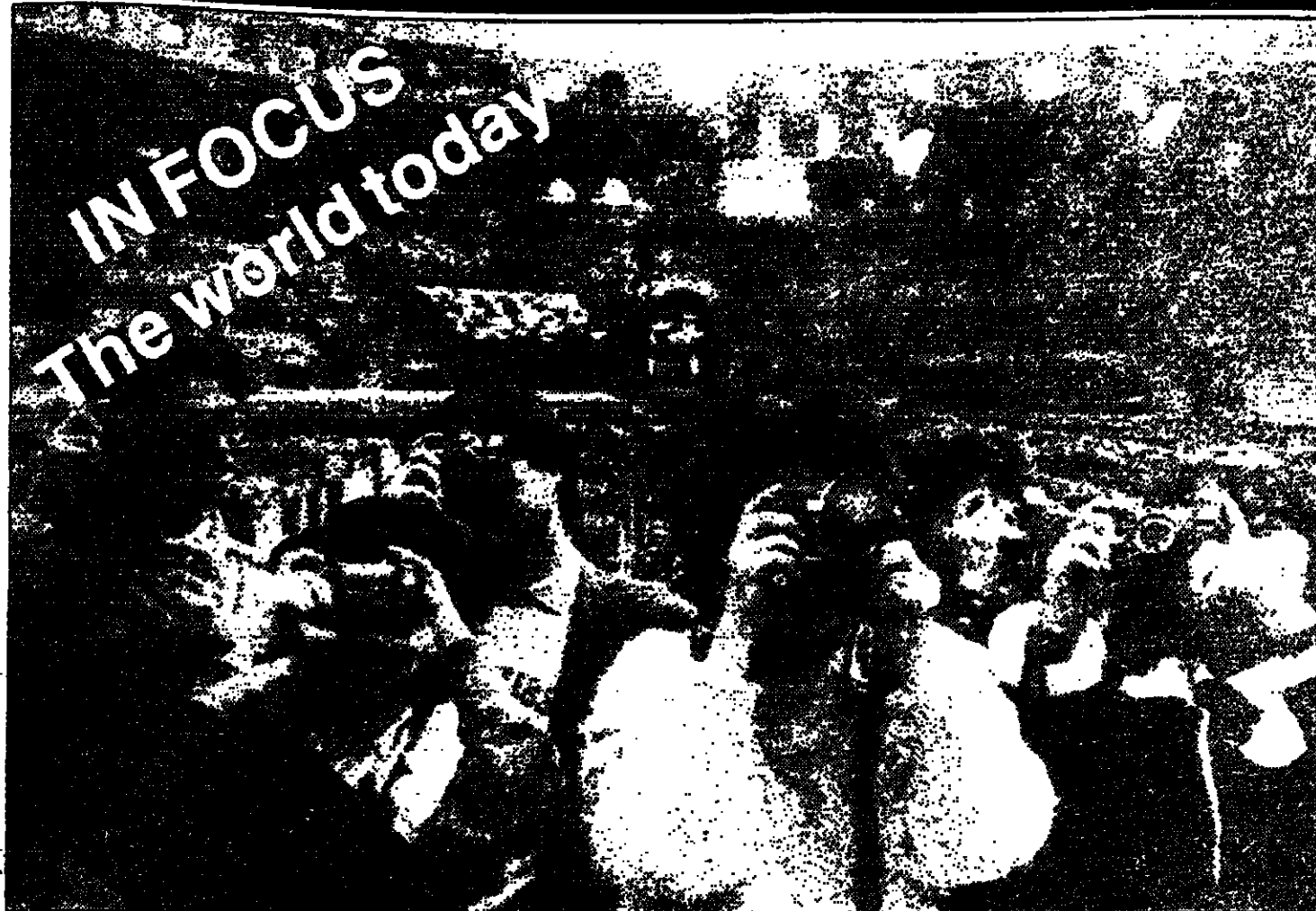
The Cyprus issue had been shelved in the Ozal-Papandreu meetings, pointing out that Papandreu had pressed the view that demilitarisation of Cyprus was the only way to a solution and he agreed totally with this.

He also emphasised that political forces in Cyprus had always maintained that a solution to the issue had to take place within the framework of a United Nations decision and not as the result of bilateral negotiations between two countries.

One Greek reporter suggested at a press conference that Vassiliou, like Cyprus presidents before him, had come to Athens to "get his orders."



President Castro seen during a recent speech. (Reuters wirephoto)

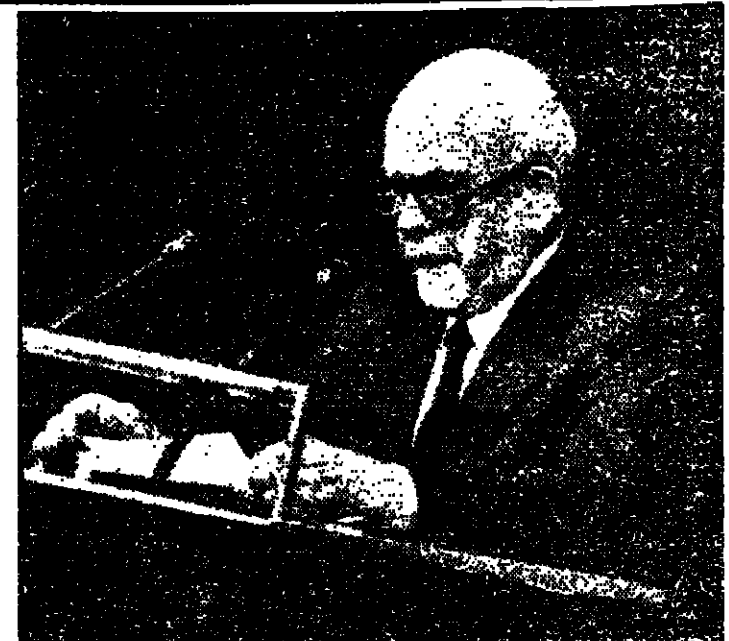


IN FOCUS
The world today

STUDENTS from Tokyo University take snapshots of Rome's ancient amphitheatre, the Colosseum, during a mid-term visit to Italy. The strength of the yen against the Italian lire has led to a boom in the number of Japanese tourists visiting Italy. (Reuter wirephoto)



A POLICE officer arrests a demonstrator in front of the White House on Friday during a protest against President Reagan's deployment of troops in Honduras. Police arrested 24 of the demonstrators. (Reuter wirephoto)



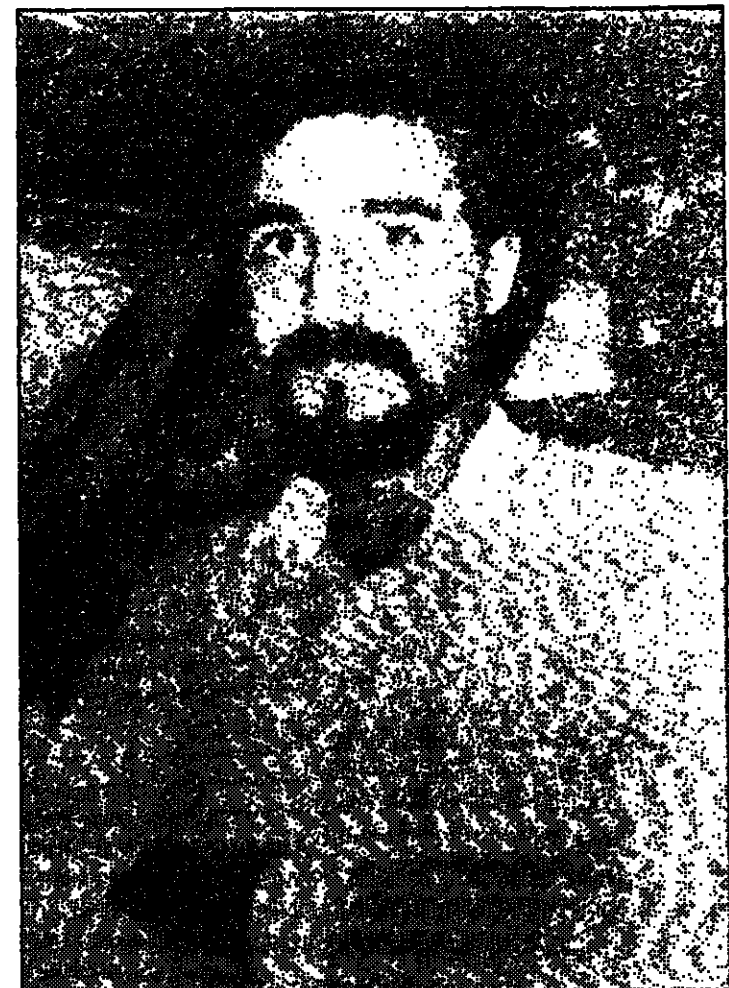
ZEHDI TERZI, Palestine Liberation Organisation envoy to the United Nations, speaks before the UN General Assembly in New York on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)



MICHEL DELEPINE smiles from his hospital bed in Dour, Belgium, last week after a still unexplained recovery following his apparent death. An undertaker preparing the body for burial noted the body was too supple to be that of a corpse. Delepine, 33, was subsequently revived in hospital. (Reuter wirephoto)



FIVE Sinhalese children aged six to 15 walk to a Buddhist temple in Galmetiya in the eastern district of Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, to join 350 villagers who sleep there at night under protection of Sri Lankan soldiers from Tamil rebel attacks. (Reuter wirephoto)



A RECENT undated file photograph of Gaza attorney Mohammed Hashen Abu Shaban who was arrested yesterday by Israeli authorities on his return from speaking at a Tel Aviv University seminar where he condemned the beating of Palestinians by soldiers. (Reuter wirephoto)



ONE of several hundred small-scale farmers keeps a tight hold on his milk cow as French anti-riot police block access to the street where the Agricultural Ministry is located. The farmers marched through central Paris on Friday to protest the government's agricultural subsidy policies that favour large farming cooperatives. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOVIET leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa look at the huge walls that surround the old city of Dubrovnik as they go sightseeing in Yugoslavia on Friday on the first leg of an official visit. (Reuter wirephoto)



PRINCE CHARLES arrives in Davos, Switzerland, on Friday to visit a friend who was injured in an avalanche which nearly claimed his own life on the ski slopes last week. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE coffin of the late West German Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger lies on a podium during the funeral service held on Friday. At right is West German President Richard von Weizsäcker and widow Marie-Luise Kiesinger. (Reuter wirephoto)



THREE armed French anti-riot policemen confront a gypsy youth in a shanty-town section of Marseille on Friday. The gypsies were protesting their living conditions by setting fires and burning garbage bins on fire. (Reuter wirephoto)



ITALIAN Prime Minister designate Ciriaco de Mita speaks to reporters after the first round of talks on the formation of a new government in Rome on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)

HEALTH

By Angus MacPherson

A TERRIFYING warning against complacency in the face of the killer disease AIDS has been sounded in a new book by the world's two most famous sex scientists.

Recently it has become fashionable to assert that the disease is still confined essentially to high-risk minority groups — mainly homosexuals and drug addicts — and that heterosexual men and women have little to fear.

Such views are incredibly dangerous delusions, according to sex gurus Dr William Masters and Virginia Johnson. Their latest research produces devastating evidence that:

1. AIDS has ALREADY

broken out on a significant scale into the broader population.

2. From now on, the spread of the disease among ordinary men and women is likely to escalate at a 'frightening pace.'

The long-awaited Masters and Johnson report on AIDS is contained in their book published recently *Crisis: Heterosexual Behaviour In The Age Of AIDS*.

Their most alarming evidence comes from a unique research project with nearly 1,000 men and women — aged 21 to 40, middle-class, 'normal' and sexually active.

'High risk-takers' like gays and addicts were carefully excluded.

These volunteers were tested for the AIDS virus. They were also exhaustively questioned

Masters and Johnson sound the alarm on killer disease

AIDS: everyone is at risk

on their sexual habits. They were all heterosexual. But half of them were also promiscuous — the women had on average 11 different sex partners each year, the men nine.

And blood samples infected with AIDS were found in seven per cent of the women, and five per cent of the men.

In dramatic contrast, in a similar group who had stuck to

one sex partner, AIDS infection was virtually non-existent — one man out of 400 men and women.

'The implications of this research are straightforward,' Masters and Johnson declare.

'As larger numbers of people are exposed, larger numbers of infections are transmitted, both sexually and otherwise.'

'In time, perhaps in just a few

years, infection with the AIDS virus will be commonplace, not just in persons who have had many sex partners, but in heterosexuals who have had relatively few.'

Opinion

Opinions among experts differ notoriously on just how many of those who show the AIDS virus will eventually

come down with the disease.

But it looks, say Masters and Johnson, as if it will be quite a high proportion.

And meanwhile, just counting and classifying cases of AIDS can only lead to 'blind complacency.'

'This will comfort those who use the absence of a great leap in the percentage of AIDS cases occurring among non-drug-

using adults as 'proof' that the virus is still contained largely in the homosexual, bisexual, drug-using community.

'But with a disease that often has a latency period of five years or more from the time of initial infection until the diagnosis can be definitely established, we are ignoring biological reality if we accept such "proof".'

The implications of the spread of the AIDS virus into the general population are frightening.

In an apocalyptic survey, Masters and Johnson predict that within just three years, the world will be reeling under at least two million cases of AIDS, with well over one million deaths.

By the year 2000, unless there is 'astounding' progress with a vaccine, there will be 25 million cases.

The world-famous authors of *Crisis* admit that their first pronouncement on this 20th-century scourge will provoke controversy and even anger.

They are challenging what they describe as 'the consensus' that has comfortably developed for dealing with AIDS.

But this sort of attitude, say Masters and Johnson, is itself highly misleading.

It's a form of benevolent deception practised by the scientific community in the understandable wish to avoid mass panic. Regrettably, they claim, much of what has been written is simply incorrect.

Contributing to this has been a powerful psychological and morally orientated drive.

The first outbreaks in both Europe and America were largely confined to homosexuals and bisexual men and intravenous drug abusers. These were groups that could comfortably be written off as 'deviant'.

And this gave many people a sense of moral superiority — and also of personal immunity from the disease.

As a result, the public has been generally lulled into believing AIDS is still largely confined to these groups — which is 'extraordinarily erroneous.'

To start with, Masters and Johnson warn, authorities are greatly underestimating the numbers infected.

In the USA, for instance, it is still being claimed that only

1,500,000 people are infected.

But this same figure was given in mid-1986. If it were still right, it would imply that AIDS was standing still — something no sexually transmitted disease has ever done. In fact, the authors claim, the true situation is that there are likely to be three million or more carriers of the AIDS virus in the USA.

At least 200,000 of these are probably non-drug using heterosexuals who have been infected by a sex partner.

The routes by which the virus can 'cross over' from the original high-risk groups include bisexual males and prostitutes.

And experts are also gravely underestimating the extent to which this has already happened, spreading the AIDS virus into the heterosexual community.

The most horrid risk in this situation, Masters and Johnson declare, is that most of these carriers don't realise they are infected.

'Many, if not most, are taking no precautions in terms of sexual behaviour, donating blood, or using intravenous drugs, so that they continue to infect others over an indefinite period of time.'

Although the situation in Europe, Canada and Australia is nothing like so serious as in America, the authors warn that these countries are following the same path, two or three years behind.

And in Central Africa and Haiti, AIDS is already decimating the population — with relatively few cases traceable to homosexual or bisexual contact.

So far from AIDS being confined to ghettos of 'deviants', most of the world's future victims will get it from normal man-and-women sex.

Shorn of medical jargon, this is the gruesome warning behind the Masters and Johnson conclusion that it is likely that heterosexual transmission of AIDS will soon become the predominant mechanism of infection on a world-wide basis.

Extracted from *Crisis: heterosexual behaviour in the age of AIDS*, by William Masters, Virginia Johnson and Robert Kolodny (published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson £9.95) ©1988 — William H. Masters MD, Virginia E. Johnson and Robert C. Kolodny MD.



Dr William Masters and Virginia Johnson are the world's most famous team of sex researchers and sex therapists. They are married to each other.

THERE are many comforting delusions about AIDS, according to Masters and Johnson. They grimly demolish them one by one.

Many, they say, have been deliberately allowed to grow by the authorities — by doctors, by health authorities, by newspapers — in a sort of benevolent conspiracy to avoid stirring mass panic.

But they are dangerous delusions.

1. You can't get AIDS from a single sex act. Fact: There are cases of infection from a single encounter. There is even one of a woman who showed the AIDS virus after artificial insemination with donor's sperm.

2. Your chance of catching the virus from a single encounter is remote — as low as one in 1,000 or 2,000. Fact: Masters and Johnson research shows the risk much higher — 1 in 400 for a woman, 1 in 600 for a man.

3. You can't get AIDS from kissing. Fact: Unquestionably, you can. There is enough live virus in saliva to infect another person.

And it is commonplace for people to have small cuts or abrasions in the mouth — both from eating and from brushing their teeth — which provide an easy entry route for the virus.

Yet medical scientists have reassuringly suggested that kissing is not a likely means of spreading the virus.

'Should we not be adopting precautions against the worst possibility, rather than making the most optimistic assumption?

tion?' Masters and Johnson demand.

'This is quite literally a life and death matter, not an intellectual discussion.'

4. You can't get AIDS from 'casual' contacts, i.e. those not involving sex acts, shared needles or blood transfusions. Fact: There are a great many ways in which you possibly can.

For years, authorities insisted that health care workers could not catch AIDS from ordinary contacts with patients.

Less than a year ago, the American Centre for Disease Control did a spectacular about-face and revealed three such cases. The victims were all women caring for AIDS sufferers.

One had a small amount of blood on her index finger for about 20 minutes before washing it off.

Another was wearing surgical gloves and glasses when she was splashed in the face and mouth by blood from an infected person.

The third had blood spilled on her hands and forearms. She had no visible cuts or sores. But she did have a rash on her ear, which she was believed to have touched.

These instances of 'casual' transmission have a serious warning not just for those in hospital work. For instance, it is sometimes claimed that:

5. You can't catch AIDS in a restaurant. Fact: You can, say Masters and Johnson.

The virus can be passed on if an infected chef or waiter cuts

himself, the blood drips on food to be served cold and the person eating it has cuts or ulceration in their mouth.

Infection is also possible from a glass or utensil not properly cleaned. The risk is small. But it is not clear how small.

6. You can't catch AIDS from a lavatory seat. The very suggestion that you could is laughed off as evidence of a medieval style plague panic. Fact: Tests have shown that the virus remains alive and infectious for up to three days in dried blood or semen.

If cuts or blisters are present, it is possible to transfer the virus between two people via a contaminated toilet seat — or any other surface.

It is a possibility, so it is legitimate to be concerned about the risk, no matter how far fetched it might seem, say Masters and Johnson.

7. You can't get AIDS from playing football. Fact: You can — and from any other sport which causes scrapes, cuts and nosebleeds.

8. You can't get AIDS from an insect bite. Fact: Even this is not certain. It is known that the virus can be taken up by mosquitoes, and can live in their blood for at least 48 hours.

The amount of blood injected when the insect bites is extremely small. But it is not certain how much virus is needed to start an infection.

Masters and Johnson concede there is no way of calculating how great the risk is in 'casual' contact.

It may now be very small. But as the prevalence of infection in the general population rises, so will the chance of infection.

It makes, they conclude with solemn understatement, for 'a scary situation.'

Some of the other public place-based about AIDS which they challenge are:

9. Even if you are found to have the AIDS virus, you have a better than even chance of avoiding the full-blown — and fatal — disease. Fact: While present 'official' estimates are that only 20 to 30 per cent of infected people succumb to the full disease, this is another example of AIDS over optimism.

A recent study in Germany indicates the true figure is more likely to be 75 per cent.

And many experts now fear that with time, perhaps two decades, virtually all infected persons will get the disease.

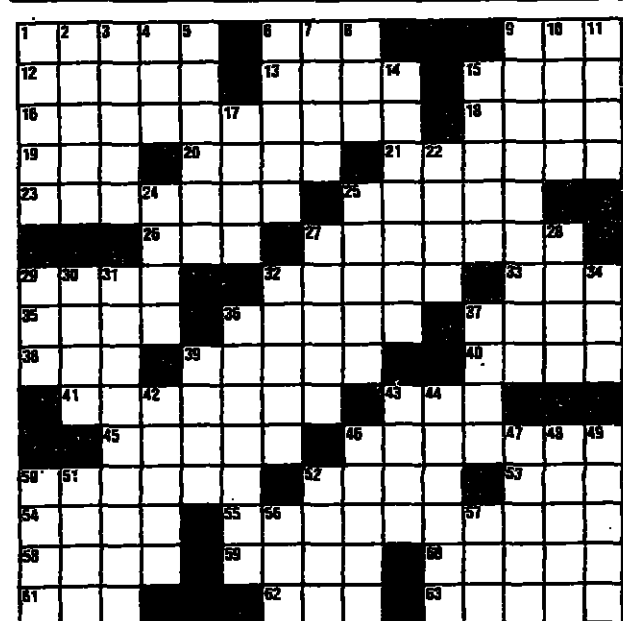
10. Condoms guarantee 'safe' sex. Fact: They don't. Most reports studied by Masters and Johnson indicate that condoms fail as a contraceptive in 10 to 15 per cent of cases.

Condoms will provide a degree of protection, if used consistently.

'Yet many medical experts, public health officials and educators have jumped on the bandwagon proclaiming that condoms are "lifesaving" devices.'

To suggest that condom use is a complete answer in the fight against AIDS is to oversimplify and mislead in an irresponsible fashion.'

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Caesar —
 - Practice
 - Hammarskjöld
 - Steak
 - Deer
 - Koran chapter
 - Mother's helper
 - Eastern title
 - Noun ending
 - Highlander
 - House and grounds
 - Begrudges
 - Digs up
 - Balaam's mount
 - Snarers by trickery
 - Liability
 - Blackthorn fruits
 - Sprite
 - Cupid
 - Diamond location
 - Pennsylvania port
 - Had been
 - Fodder
 - Give up
 - Harangues
 - Paper money: Abbr.
 - Twos
 - Footer, often
 - With 60 Across, West African country
 - Flatte
 - Abbr. on a street map
 - Wings
 - Skin Granny Smiths
 - Satisfied sound
 - Shout
 - See 50 Across
 - Draft inits.
 - Radio receiver
 - Modern painter
 - Max —
 - DOWN
 - A way up

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

HILL TIENET THIE
BOOE ELATE HARE
REDSKELTON ELIA
AXIE APES DIRECT
OPEN SERE
TAUPE SPRADE
MARTIA TIRE BEAD
ALDO PATED ABLE
LIEE ALEE FRIAR
TANTALUS SLOTS
HITS TEEN
EFFETE MAGE JOE
BLUR REDBUTONS
OOZE EXILE LIVES
NEED DOVES MERIE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
TAKE AN EXTRA POINT OR TWO

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 9 6
♥ A J 10
♦ Q 8 4
♣ A Q 5

EAST
♠ 3 2
♥ 8 6 4
♦ A K J 10 9 6
♣ K 10

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 8 5
♥ K Q 3
♦ 7 3
♣ 6 4 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1 NT 2 ♦ 3 ♣ Pass
4 ♣ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Five of ♦

The simple finesse is something of a misnomer. Usually, the play is easy enough. But often other considerations enter into account.

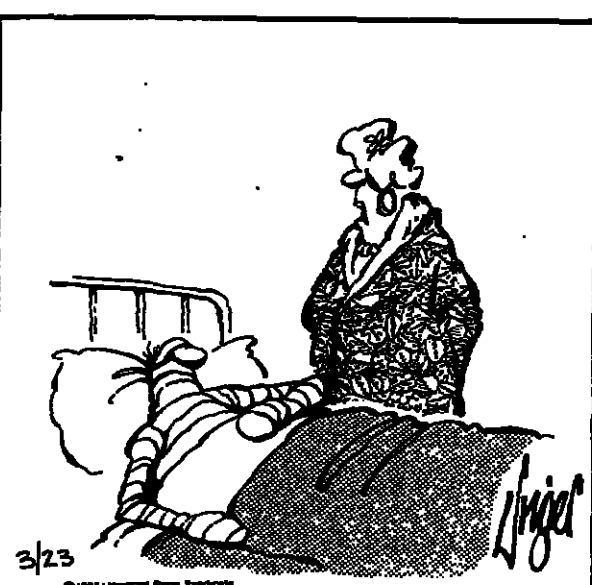
The auction was straightforward. With four-card support, North's raise to four spades was 'automatic.' Too bad he didn't consider the positional value of his queen of diamonds, because three no trump from his side of the table would

have been routine.

Guided by his partner's overall, West attacked with a diamond, and the defenders quickly netted two tricks in the suit. East continued with a third diamond and declarer ruffed high. After drawing trumps, declarer had only one problem—to avoid two club losers.

Had either declarer or dummy held only two clubs and had the goal been to avoid losing any trick in the suit, then the finesse would have been the only way to tackle the suit. But since declarer had to lose a club trick, he found a better way to handle the combination. He led a club to the ace, then cashed three rounds of hearts, ending in hand. Next came a club toward the queen.

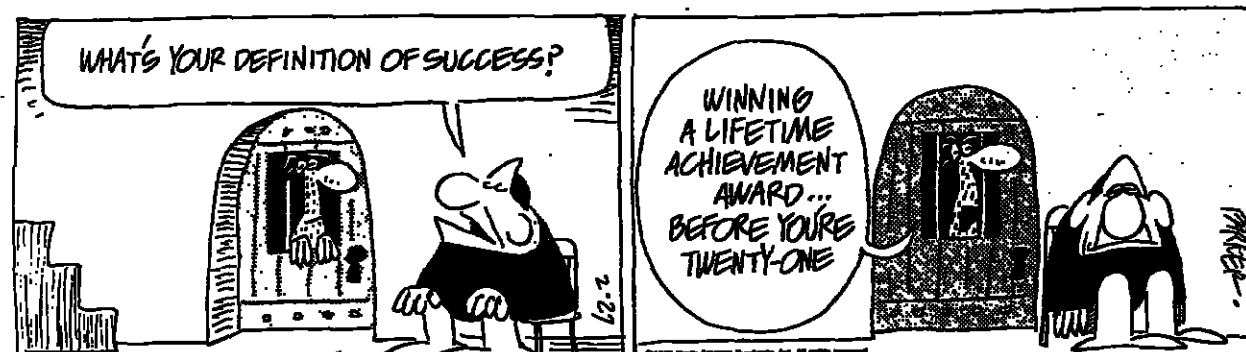
Had West held the king, he would have been able to win with his majesty, but that would have been the last trick for the defense. When West played low, declarer tried the queen from dummy, and he was not really surprised, in light of the overcall, when that lost to the king. But now declarer's extra chance paid off. East had started with only two clubs, and he was now forced to give declarer a ruff-sluff by returning a diamond. Declarer's only losers were two diamonds and a club.



"I told you never to get between Mother and a dessert trolley."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

The Sun's more positive influence will help you to overcome a slight depression. You should relax without declining into laziness. Restrain a trend towards impulsiveness. Be sincere.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Make sure you keep your wits about you. The situation you are in is better but you must not just hope for the best. Something you had hoped for will not happen. Be frugal.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should be prepared to change your ideas in the light of new developments. You should stick to what is strictly practical just now. Make sure you get a balanced diet with enough vitamins. Be attentive.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Good opportunities are lacking at the moment, but be patient. You should not allow others to call the tune just now, but you should respond to reason. You will be able to make the best use of your assets. Be conscientious.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Do not waste time on negative thoughts. The Moon's better influence will help you to seize hold of a good opportunity. Do not leave preparation until the last minute. Be observant.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should keep some money in reserve for an unavoidable and unforeseen expenditure. The Moon's influence will not help you with your mood. You should be even more careful than usual when on the road. Be cordial.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should not let another person's bad mood infect you. Mercury's influence will make it more difficult for you to orientate yourself. You should take your mind off work for the day. Be more receptive.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should avoid taking everything at its face value. Nor should you try to use force to get your way just now. With patience and forbearance you will be able to avoid a misunderstanding.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be able to make progress with a personal project. You should rely less on luck, more on judgement. The Sun's influence will help you to maintain your health. Be alert.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The prospects in your personal life are better, but you must avoid an argument. Take more notice of the views of your partner and children. Try to free yourself from preconceptions. Be resolute.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

One of your problems cannot be solved today; never mind, just keep working at it. You should not make any vague promises. Watch your expenses. Be selective.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

For you the situation looks well, but you must not get involved in what does not concern you. Do not lose the courage of your convictions. Your sense of humour will help you.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Spanish firm acts to fend off Kuwaiti bid

MADRID, March 19, (Reuters): Spain's second largest food company acted yesterday to fend off a takeover bid by the Kuwait Investment Office (KIO).

The board of Ebro Compania de Azucres Y Alcoholicos SA said it had agreed to increase the company's share capital by 40 per cent by raising the nominal value of its issued shares through a transfer from reserves.

It also advised shareholders not to accept KIO's offer, made this week through its main investment arm in Spain, paper pulp company Torras Hostench SA, which it controls.

Value
"The Torras offer... does not reflect the real value of the company," Ebro said.

The KIO places Kuwaiti petrodollars in investments worldwide and recently built a stake of more than 20 per cent in British-based oil multinational British Petroleum Co PLC (BP).

Ebro controls one-third of the Spanish sugar market. KIO has offered 30,000 pesetas (\$268) a share to boost its stake in it to 51 per cent from 20 per cent.

The shares were trading at 19,000 pesetas (\$170) on Monday before the Madrid Bourse suspended trading pending the takeover offer.

Battle
Analysts said this week that Ebro's board would have to enter a costly battle if it were to contest the bid. The board owns only two per cent of the stock.

KIO acquired 20 per cent of Ebro last December, but said at the time it did not plan to take full control.

KIO's \$2.2 billion of Spanish investments include a 12.5 per cent stake in the country's largest bank, Bancocentral. It has controlling stakes in chemical firms Union Explosivos Rio Tinto SA and Cros SA.

Fast growth, high inflation predicted for China

BEIJING, March 19, (AP): China's economy will continue to grow at a rapid rate in the first quarter of 1988, but little progress is being made in fighting double-digit inflation in urban areas, according to a forecast reported today.

The official China Daily quoted Wu Minglu of the National Research Centre for the Development of Science and Technology as saying gross industrial production through March will be \$71 billion, up 16 per cent over the same period in 1987.

Wu predicted that light industrial production will increase 17.8 per cent to \$37 billion while heavy industry will grow by 14.2 per cent to \$34 billion.

Prices
He said retail prices may be difficult to control, and would increase 8.5 per cent over the first three months of 1987. Prices for consumer goods would climb 8.6 per cent, and the cost of living would increase by 8.7 per cent, he said.

Wu said statistics from 32 Chinese cities for February showed that prices for living expenses were up by more than 10 per cent. He said retail prices for food will have risen by more than 15 per cent since the first quarter of 1987.

Venezuela to set up ammonia plant

CARACAS, March 19, (Opecna): A \$206-million ammonia plant with an output capacity of 500,000 tonnes a year will be built in east Venezuela under joint venture arrangements between Pecuiven, the petrochemical arm of Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA), the Venezuelan state oil company, and Norsk Hydro of Norway.

According to an announcement by Pecuiven, an agreement is to be signed on Monday in Oslo.

Project
Work on the project is scheduled to begin this year and by 1991 the plant will come on stream with the entire output to be exported.

In the joint venture Pecuiven and Norsk Hydro will hold 49 and 30 per cent of the shares respectively, while a group of Venezuelan private investors will control 15 per cent and the remaining equity is to be acquired from stock sales on the local market.

Finding an honest broker

By Midas

IN the first part of this article last week I tried to warn you about some of the negative signs to look out for when you are trying to evaluate an investment adviser. In today's article I'd like to concentrate on some of the positive signs to look out for.

Perhaps the most important is where the adviser's parent company is based. If the company is registered in the UK then you can relax since the current legislation offers investors a lot of protection, (I'll go into that later).

To a certain extent this legislation also covers the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, and places like Luxembourg and Switzerland are also quite well protected.

However, Gibraltar and some of the smaller Caribbean states are wide open and you should be very wary. Ask why they have chosen to base themselves in the Netherlands Antilles or some such place. If they don't have a satisfactory answer, then steer clear.

Protection
With regard to UK-based financial advisers, the latest legislation requires them all to be members of FIMBRA. The rules applying to FIMBRA members offer comprehensive protection to the investor, even if he is resident abroad. For a start each client's account has to be insured

against fraudulent loss. This means that if the individual adviser takes your money and heads for the hills, the insurance policy will automatically reimburse you, up to a maximum of one million pounds per account.

Provision
The other major provision is new, and seems likely to provide a small army of lawyers with a fat living for the next few decades. This rule states that advisers have to give you what is termed, 'best advice'. This is an attempt to legislate against advisers who recommend clients to make certain investments simply because they happen to be profitable to the adviser.

Like so many laws, this sounds fine in theory, but is very difficult to operate in practice.

After all, choosing stocks is an art rather than a science. A good hunch often turns out to be far more profitable than all of the research in the world. Personally speaking, I'd much prefer to have a lucky broker than a well-informed one.

This being the case, how can you prove that the broker did not give you his 'best advice'? In some cases the best unit trusts are more expensive than the weaker ones, and that means more commission for the broker. If that unit trust subsequently loses money it could prove very, very difficult to persuade a court of law that you were conned.

However, where this rule does benefit the client is when it comes

to 'churning'. This has nothing to do with butter-making, instead it means the practice of buying and selling stocks or units over and over again simply to generate a lot of commission on the sales and purchases.

Obviously, if you give your adviser the right of discretionary management it means that you expect him to buy and sell your holdings on your behalf, but this practice must not be abused.

If he keeps on buying and selling with no real rhyme or reason then you will be able to take action against him under the 'best advice' rule.

The whole question of 'discretionary management' is another thorny problem. Simply put, 'discretionary management' is like a power of attorney that you give to your adviser allowing him to buy and sell on your behalf without further reference to you.

Response
The advantage of this is that he can act swiftly in response to market conditions without having to check with you every time he wants to make a move. If he's good, and you trust him, it's obviously a useful way of operating.

On the negative side, 'Discretionary management' can easily lead to trouble, particularly if you fail to make your investment objectives absolutely clear.

If your adviser takes a long term investment decision, but

you are going to need some of that money in the short term, then you'll be very sorry, although it will really be your own fault.

Whenever you hand over funds to a discretionary management you should tell them exactly what you wish to achieve.

If you can afford to take risks, or you want no risks whatsoever, or a combination of the two, it doesn't matter, so long as you explain it clearly, in writing. That way, if anything goes wrong then you have proof that your orders were deliberately ignored.

Philosophy
However, having made your overall philosophy clear, then leave them alone to get on with it. After all, you are playing for their expertise, and you must therefore be prepared to let them use that expertise without interference.

You should get quarterly or half yearly accounts to let you know how well, or badly, they are doing with your money. If you are unhappy, then that is the time to withdraw, or at least change your basic philosophy if it is no longer valid.

Having given your trust to your adviser, then it is best to leave him alone. Trust is not divisible, you either trust somebody, or you don't. If you still have doubts, then don't go for discretionary management, just put your money in the biggest, most famous bank around and at least you will sleep easily at night.

US to revise energy reserves estimates

WASHINGTON, March 19, (Reuters): The US government will revise the sharply lower estimates of US oil and gas reserves released last week by the Interior Department's geological survey, Interior Secretary Don Hodel said yesterday.

"I happen to believe that, very unwisely, the numbers were played as if they were the final numbers, but they're not. They're preliminary numbers," Hodel told a meeting of an oil and gas industry trade association.

The geological survey report cut by about 40 per cent a 1981 estimate of the amount of undiscovered oil and natural gas in the United States.

The estimates drew immediate fire from the energy industry, with one official denouncing them as 'shoddy'.

Impression
Hodel told reporters the report gave the wrong impression to the public because it failed to adequately explain its new methodology and that it excluded many energy sources that were counted during an earlier survey that served as the basis of comparison.

HDEL said that both the methodology and presentation of the report were being reviewed and said it was certain that a revised version would be published with different results.

Bright prospects for cheaper home loans

UK economy posts fastest growth

LONDON, March 19, (Agencies): Britain's economy grew faster last year than it did in any year since the oil crisis of 1973, the government said today.

Britain's gross domestic product (GDP) — the sum of the value of all goods and services — rose by 4.4 per cent in 1987, its biggest jump since the 7.25 per cent growth posted in 1973.

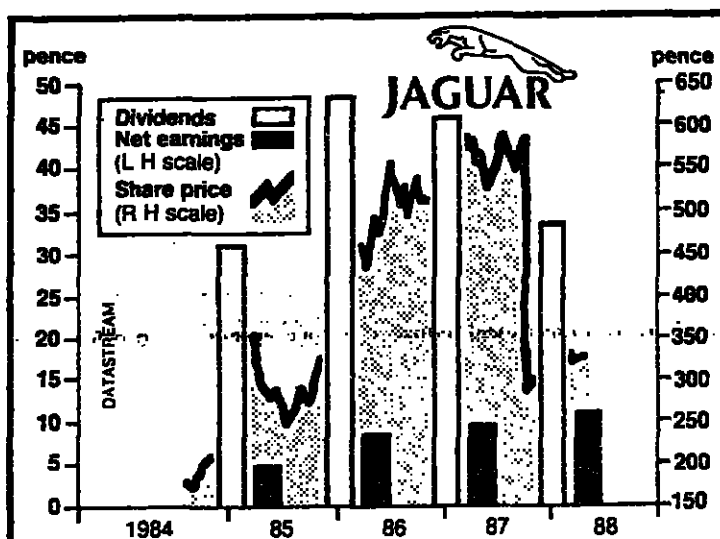
In 1986, the economy grew by three per cent, which is the rate of growth the government expects for 1988, officials said.

The Central Statistical Office said consumer spending rose by five per cent in 1987, down from six per cent in 1986, while spending on large household items such as televisions, videos, refrigerators and stereos rose by nine per cent in 1987 compared with 19 per cent in 1986.

Prospects of cheaper home loans looked much brighter this week following the surprise announcement yesterday that base rate had been cut from 9 to 8.5 per cent.

Building societies and banks were adopting a 'wait and see' attitude after the Bank of England's move to stem the pound's upward surge on foreign exchanges.

Some small lenders did make



cuts in mortgage rates following the announcement, but the two biggest building societies — the Halifax and the Abbey National — had no immediate plans.

Reduction
Analysts were saying at the weekend that it would take more than a 1/2 per cent reduction to take the steam out of sterling's rise, given high British interest rates and the strong growth of the economy.

Yesterday's cut will give some

Jaguar shares tumbled and were standing around 300 pence (\$5.4) at the close of the week after the luxury car maker reported a 20 per cent fall in profits for 1987, though the setback had been well signposted.

For 1987, profits fell from £120.8 million (\$217.44 million) to £97 million (\$174.6 million), despite a 21 per cent rise in sales to just over the £1 billion (\$1.8 billion) level.

Shortfall
The shortfall was blamed on a £15.2 million (\$27.36 million) rise in development spending, a similar increase in depreciation, reflecting a high level of capital spending, and the weak dollar.

The drop in profits was confined to the first half of the year, which bore the larger-than-expected spending on the new XJ6 model.

The production build-up of the new model and the phasing out of the six-cylinder series 111 inevitably led to problems on the production line.

Even so, output was up 16 per cent to 48,020 units.

Sales to distributors and dealers were up 19 per cent to 49,200 cars. But the key US market turned down, with sales 6

per cent lower to 22,919.

Before last October's stock market crash, Jaguar was hoping to top the 1986 figure, but the crash had greater impact on the confidence of the wealthy in the US than in Europe and demand for luxury cars turned down.

But Jaguar was in a better competitive position than its German and Japanese competitors because the pound sterling was less on the dollar than the German mark and yen.

Today the company announced that 1,000 men had staged a 24-hour protest walkout at the Coventry assembly plant, bringing production to a standstill.

His followed the laying off of 300 on Wednesday without pay after an earlier walkout.

Plans to take full control of marketing and distribution of its products in Japan were confirmed this week by United Distillers division of Guinness (UDG).

They followed a similar pattern to that achieved in the US last year.

The company has opened a regional headquarters in Tokyo. UDG Japan will be headed by Shunji Noritomi as regional director, formerly vice-president of Kirin Seagram.

Africa steps up 3-year bid for international debt talks

NAIROBI, March 19, (Reuters): African nations are stepping up efforts to stage an international conference on their crippling foreign debt despite a cool response from creditors.

Finance and foreign ministers from 12 African nations are to meet in Zambia on Monday in a fresh bid for a breakthrough in the three-year-old initiative.

The aim is apparently to introduce some collective bargaining to loan talks, under which debtor countries currently negotiate individually with donors such as the Paris Club of official creditors.

"If you go to Paris (now) then you are going in the capacity of an unaccompanied debtor to stand trial before a council of

creditors... like a client unaccompanied by a lawyer," complained Zambia's Finance Minister Gibson Chigala last month.

The two-day talks follow a special summit of the 49-nation Organisation of African Unity (OAU) last December on the \$200-billion debt of the world's poorest continent.

Cost
This represents a more than fifteen-fold rise since 1970, when it was only \$13 billion in the red.

According to the Addis Ababa-based UN Economic Commission for Africa, African countries now spend on average some 40 per cent of their export earnings on servicing the debt.

The cost is crippling for a continent trying to breathe life into stagnant economies, exhausted by rapid population growth and a slump in world prices for oil, farm and metal exports, and facing civil strife and growing ranks of refugees and the hungry.

Africa's official and commercial creditors, mainly Western, have shown little enthusiasm for an international debt conference since it was first proposed in 1985.

They apparently prefer to deal with each country separately, if only to avoid setting a precedent that could be exploited by Latin American big debtors.

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American oil prices at highest level in a month

NEW YORK, March 19, (Reuters): US oil prices rose yesterday to the highest level in nearly a month on anticipation that Opec would announce a measure to raise sagging oil prices at a news conference next week.

April futures contracts for the US benchmark grade of oil, West Texas Intermediate, rose 30 cents to \$16.58 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Volatile
Traders said, however, that the direction of prices next week is unclear and will largely depend on signals from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Over the past two days, West Texas Intermediate jumped almost 60 cents a barrel on market speculation that Opec

President Rikwan Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister, scheduled a news conference on Tuesday to call for an Opec price committee meeting.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti told Reuters in Caracas yesterday that a meeting of the Opec price committee might be called to analyse what he described as a confused and volatile oil market.

In London, spot market prices for May cargoes of Brent, the world's most widely traded crude oil, climbed 35 cents a barrel to about \$14.92.

"Prices firmed yesterday on carry-over from Thursday. There was widespread interpretation on the Nymex that Lukman will call for an Opec price committee meeting next week," said Jim Steel, analyst with Refco Inc.

World Business Summary

S. Korean oil group to expand operations

SEOUL, March 19, (Opecna): The Lucky Goldstar group of South Korea plans to expand its hydrocarbon exploration activities in Southeast Asia, following the successful development of the Udang Oilfield in Indonesia in which it participated. The Udang Oilfield is located in the South China Sea, about 600 km west of the Natuna islands group where Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, made gas discoveries. Oil industry sources here said today that Lucky Goldstar would also participate in oil exploration and development projects in the United States.

Under a programme to be launched in the first half of this year, the group's affiliates — Lucky Goldstar International and Homan Petrochemical Corporation — will cooperate with Chevron Petroleum International in exploring and developing seven onshore and three offshore projects in the US, according to the sources.

The projects are located in California, Oklahoma, Texas and the Gulf of Mexico. A total of \$20 million will be invested for initial exploration during the second quarter of this year. Under an agreement between Lucky Goldstar and Chevron, the South Korean group can exchange the oil produced by US venture for high quality Chevron crude in other parts of the world.

Soviet law outlines taxes for cooperative workers

MOSCOW, March 19, (AP): Soviets who earn 2,000 rubles (\$3,200) or more a month working in cooperatives not under state control will have to pay at least half of the money back in taxes, a newspaper said yesterday. The government newspaper Izvestia outlined progressive income taxes for members of cooperatives that it said will go into effect on April 1.

Taxes will remain low for the cooperatives themselves, but income taxes for those who earn more than 500 rubles (\$800) a month in the cooperatives will climb steeply, according to an interview the newspaper conducted with Finance Ministry official Y. Zenskoy.

Zenskoy said taxes will be increased on high salaries because in those cases cooperatives are paying out in salaries what the government would like them to spend improving and expanding their services. Under Mikhail S. Gorbachev's economic reforms, Soviets may form cooperatives to produce goods and provide services outside the state-run economy. They must be approved by local governments, but otherwise operate outside state control. The current tax rate is between 2 per cent and 3 per cent for cooperatives in their first year and up to 10 per cent after their third year. Taxes on cooperative members will increase sharply after an income of 500 rubles monthly, Zenskoy said. The tax on 1,000 rubles (\$1,600) will be 27.20 rubles and on 2,000 rubles (\$3,200) will be 53.5 per cent.

Zenskoy said the tax eventually reaches 90 per cent, but did not say what the income threshold was for that tax.

He said local governments may keep the money collected in income taxes on cooperatives as an incentive to help develop cooperatives.

Vietnam sets out rules for household economy

BANGKOK, Thailand, March 19, (AP): Vietnam has announced relatively liberal regulations to encourage a "household economy" in the economically ailing country, according to a report monitored in Bangkok today. The Vietnam news agency said the government would recognise "the ownership, the right to inherit property and the legal income of those taking part in the household economy."

The regulations, issued March 9 by the Council of Ministers, also allow these small-scale economic units to seek bank loans, open bank accounts and receive funds from relatives living abroad through the Vietnam Foreign Trade Bank. The 10-article regulations limit participation in the household economy mainly to employees of the government and cooperatives who work during their off-hours, and to certain close relatives. After an economically disastrous decade, Vietnam has over the past two years dismantled some of its centralised and stifling Socialist system and encouraged free enterprise in a number of sectors. The regulations permit households to set up their businesses with relatively few formalities except those trying to enter such areas as forestry, electronics, medicine and mining, which require licences.

USCB posts loss

RIYADH, March 19, (Reuters): United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) reported yesterday a 1987 net loss of 14.8 million riyals (\$3.9 million) the second of Saudi Arabia's joint-venture banks in the red during the year. The Riyadh-based bank trimmed losses slightly after 1986's net deficit of 16.0 million riyals (\$4.3 million), but underlying earnings fell 20 per cent and new provisions against bad and doubtful loans were reduced by 45.5 per cent.

USCB, the youngest and smallest of the nine joint-venture banks in Saudi Arabia, is the seventh to report 1987 earnings. Results so far have been mixed, with four banks increasing profits, but Saudi British Bank sliding into the red and posting a 4.4 million riyal (\$1.2 million) loss.

Saudi banks have been hard hit by non-performing loans, especially to the domestic private sector following the slide in world oil prices during the past years. A USCB spokesman said the bank had now provided for 27 per cent of its outstanding loan book following a comprehensive analysis of its lending during 1986. Bankers said that ranks it among the best provided banks in the kingdom. A 60.0 million riyal (\$16 million) allocation for provisions in 1986 was abnormally high, he said, with last year's level of 32.7 million (\$8.7 million) reverting to a more normal amount.

The bank spokesman said lower operating revenue was due to a lower return on the bank's investment portfolio last year after an extremely good 1986 and to a higher cost of funds.

The bank's total assets rose 10.7 per cent to 4.3 billion riyals (\$1.1 billion).

IMF team ends Cairo talks

CAIRO, March 19, (Reuters): Senior International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials ended talks with the Egyptian government on its economic reforms on Thursday and left town as silently as they arrived. IMF sources said a three-member team from the fund led by Middle East director Abdel-Shakour Shaban had returned to Washington to report to managing director Michel Camdessus. No information was available on progress of their mission — seen by Western diplomats as a final review of Egyptian economic measures under a standby credits deal agreed last May. It was up to Camdessus to decide what measures to take next, the sources said. His decision is considered vital for Egypt's management of its debt-strained economy over the next two years.

The IMF has been disappointed by the pace of Egyptian reforms since last May. Without fund endorsement of its measures to streamline exchange rates, raise domestic interest rates, narrow the budget deficit and reduce state subsidies, it will be hard for Cairo to win new rescheduling of its \$43.9 billion debt. Egypt's current rescheduling accord with the Paris Club of Western government creditors, agreed after last May's IMF package, expires on June 30. Western experts say Egypt is expected to apply for fresh payments relief from July until the end of next year, but this will be in jeopardy if the IMF does not give its economic management another seal of approval.

Alshall stock price indices

Kuwait, Gulf share prices dive

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 37.45 points with a decrease of 0.31 points from last week average. Alshall index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 46.92 points with a decrease of 0.37 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares (four days trading) reached 9.64 million shares at a daily average of 2.41 million shares with a decrease of 46 per cent from the previous week daily average of 4.49 million shares.

Gulf traded shares reached 17.77 million shares at a daily average of 4.44 million shares with a decrease of 48.5 per cent from last week daily average of 8.63 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD2.412 million while it was KD0.438 million for the Gulf traded shares.

The weak performance of the market, which has been prevailing since the last few months of last year, continued for both Kuwaiti and Gulf shares. Both markets had similar performance that helped in maintaining almost an equal margin between their price indices.

For Kuwaiti shares the Banking Sector had the lead at 37.5 per cent of total trading, of which Kuwait National Bank had 33 per cent, the Commercial Bank 28 per cent and Kuwait Finance House 15 per cent. The Services Sector came second at 23.9 per cent of which Kuwait Commercial Markets had 74 per cent, Mobile Telephone systems 17 per cent and Kuwait Computer 8 per cent.

The Real Estate Sector, contrary to the usual, came third at 19.5 per cent of which United Realty had the lead at 94 per cent followed by Kuwait Projects at 6 per cent. There was no trading in the shares of the other Real Estate companies during the week.

For Gulf shares the other companies sector had the lead at 84.7 per cent with Ras Al Khaima White Cement ranking first at 48 per cent of the total Gulf shares market trading, followed by Sharjah Cement at 22 per cent and Fujairah Cement at 9 per cent. It seems that the stock market has become less sensitive for the announcements.

In fact sometimes the market is adversely affected by the announcements which are not supported by action. This has resulted in a positive change in the approach of the management of some companies in dealing with certain issues such as the decrease in the number of the companies which made stock dividends compared with last year and the release of some companies for their published accounts after revaluation of their assets at more realistic values.

Kuwait shareholding companies index			
	Wednesday 16/03/88	Wednesday 08/03/88	Change points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	87.25	88.27	-1.01
The Gulf Bank	29.35	29.35	—
The Commercial Bank	21.60	21.43	0.17
Al Ahli Bank	28.83	28.83	—
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	26.75	28.06	-1.32
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	31.75	31.75	—
Burgan Bank	24.58	24.78	-0.20
Kuwait Finance House	63.55	63.55	—
Sector Index	38.58	38.93	-0.35
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	33.14	34.85	-1.71
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	27.15	28.18	-1.03

Inv. Pearl Kuwait	84.13	85.71	-1.59
IFA	76.47	77.94	-1.47
Commercial Facilities	96.59	96.59	—
Sector Index	40.48	41.82	-1.34
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	38.60	38.60	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	28.46	—
Al Ahlia Insurance Co.	51.13	50.33	0.80
Warba Insurance Co.	85.91	84.19	1.72
Sector Index	40.82	40.30	0.22
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	30.59	30.59	—
United Realty	13.40	13.18	0.22
National Real Estate	45.39	45.39	—
Sector Index	23.11	22.99	-0.13
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.22	16.22	—
Refrigeration Indust.	80.51	80.51	—
Gulf Cables	97.70	97.70	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	56.00	56.00	—
Sector Index	31.38	31.38	—
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	209.52	213.84	-4.32
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.42	9.89	-0.48
Public Warehousing Co.	75.76	75.76	—
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	39.95	40.95	-1.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	352.38	361.90	-9.52
Sector Index	84.96	86.38	-1.42
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	49.63	49.63	—
United Fisheries	9.92	9.92	—
Kuwait United Poultry	87.28	87.28	—
Kuwait Food Co.	73.56	73.56	—
Sector Index	44.18	44.18	—
Overall Index	37.45	37.85	-0.31

Gulf shareholding companies index			
	Wednesday 16/03/88	Wednesday 08/03/88	Change points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	165.79	228.95	-63.16
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	91.03	91.03	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	89.22	89.22	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.76	61.76	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	77.92	79.65	-1.73
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	71.13	70.35	0.77
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	60.61	60.61	—
Sector Index	84.13	84.83	-0.71
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	13.25	13.25	—
Sharjah Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Fujairah Cement	10.53	10.53	—
Ajman Cement	10.00	10.00	—
Ras Al-Khaima W. Cement	21.11	20.00	1.11
Poultry & Fodder R. Alkha	18.21	18.21	—
Sector Index	36.36	36.36	—
Overall Index	46.92	47.30	-0.37

Base Period 31/12/1983.

KD deposit rates maintain firmer trend

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates generally maintained a firming trend yesterday as the Central Bank again tightened liquidity by selling three-month Treasury bills on the secondary market.

Overnight dipped to one per cent but tomorrow-next and spot-next funds traded at 5-1/2 and 5-5/8 per cent from five per cent levels on Thursday.

One-week quotes rose 1/4 point to 6-3/4, 5-3/4 per cent but trading was quiet.

One-month business was at 5 3/8 per cent and fixed period quotes firmed by about 1/4 point to six, 5-1/2 per cent for the one-month and 5-3/4, 1/4 per cent for the three to 12-month.

Dealers said new liquidity would be entering the market this week from monthly salaries but much would be absorbed by a seventh three-month treasury bill issue on Wednesday for 100 million dinars.

The Central Bank also announced a one-year bond issue for KD 50 million at 5-1/4 per cent for March 30.

The Central Bank dinar exchange rates was almost a full point easier at 0.27552/62 to the dollar from Thursday's 0.27459/69. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.27557/62. Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposits were little changed in a very quiet market yesterday, with activity focusing on short-term funds as banks covered positions.

Dealers also reported some activity in one to three-month deposits. They said liquidity was disappearing from the market as interest in fixed period maturities revived amid doubts an anticipated Saudi bond issue will be launched this month.

Many dealers believe the first issue of up to 30 billion riyals of bonds — initially expected in March — will be offered before the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which starts in mid-April. Others think the programme will be delayed until June.

Investment instruments vital to strengthen private sectors

This is the second part of the article 'Privatisation move likely to pick up steam'. The first part of this article appeared in the Arab Times on Saturday, March 19.

A FURTHER 2,000 entities have been earmarked for sale by 1990.

This could lead to the issue of equity worth about \$130 billion, more than twice the value of equity issued in the US last year. Privatisation has been rather limited up till now in the Gulf region. This is both because the trend is relatively new and because there are major problems involved.

Only a small number of government owned enterprises have been transferred to the private sector mainly in Saudi Arabia and UAE. Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (Sabic) was the largest public sector company to be partially privatised, with 30 per cent of its shares sold to Saudi and private investors from the other GCC countries.

The flotation of stocks (20 per cent in January 1984 and 10 per cent in April 1985) were 2.5 times over-subscribed with a total amount of SR3,701 million. In early 1985 the UAE government issued shares in the National Marine Dredging Company and the issue was 12 times over-subscribed. Another company, the Abu Dhabi National Hotel Company, was partially privatised later on.

The UAE government is considering selling shares of other public sector institutions, particularly in the profitable oil services sector, in an effort to stimulate private sector investments.

The governments of the region, especially Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and UAE are still major owners of shares in their respective stock markets. Government participation in public industrial shareholding companies in Kuwait was around 43 per cent in 1986. In Saudi Arabia, govern-

Government Participation in Public Industrial Shareholding Companies in Kuwait (1986)

(In millions of KD)

	Paid-up Capital	Government Share	Government Participation (Percentage)
The National Industries Company	24.3	59.2	14.4
Kuwait Metal Pipes Industries	15.2	16.6	2.5
Kuwait Cement	25.6	34.6	8.9
Refrigeration Industry & Cold Storage	6.4	66.6	4.3
Gulf Cable & Electrical Industries	5.6	35.8	2.0
Kuwait Pharmaceutical Industries	5.5	54.9	3.0
Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repair Yard	25.1	45.3	11.4
Contracting & Marine Services	7.5	45.0	3.4
All Industrial Sectors	115.2	43.30	49.9

Source: Compiled from data published by the Kuwait Stock Exchange, 1986.

ment ownership of shares varies from one sector to another.

While in the services sector, the government owns 71.3 of shares of Saudi joint stock companies, the percentage is much lower in the industrial sector (6.3 per cent), and is less than 1 per cent in banking.

To give more depth to the stock market and to mobilise private sector savings, the Saudi government plans to step up its privatisation of several national enterprises during the coming five years.

One of the main targets of the Fourth Saudi Development Plan (1985-1990) calls for a policy of privatisation in the Kingdom.

Details of some of the recent public shares floated in the Saudi market shed some light on the prospects for success in future privatisation plans.

A major factor behind the projected increase in the privatisation trend is the budget pressure of recent years. The overall decline in oil revenues, and the attempt to preserve valuable investment income generated from governments' foreign assets undermined the need for a new fiscal stringency.

Asset sales provide extra government revenues and make it possible to maintain public spending without necessarily increasing taxation or borrow-

ing. It will also provide added depth to the region's stock markets and promote wider share ownership of national assets by the population at large.

Furthermore, privatisation opens up attractive investment opportunities for domestic capital which otherwise might be invested abroad. It could also bring forth increased efficiency to the utilisation of existing capital resources.

Markets are better at achieving economic rationality than the public sector. By making companies directly accountable to private investors, they would become more responsive to market forces and customers needs.

Privatisation also provides the necessary stimulus to streamline commercially oriented public enterprises and make them more responsive to financial targets rather than wider social objectives.

Privatised companies have to provide detailed and accurate information on their corporate financial structure, their business objectives, their expenses and their cost flow, among others. This in turn implies open accounting backed up by independent external audit.

The overall economic slowdown in the region has diminished profit margins, reduced domestic demand, increased competition and brought to the surface substantial excess capacity in certain sectors, installed in anticipation of continued high level of economic activity.

The once popular real estate market stagnated as financing. Large industries with joint venture projects face fewer problems in obtaining finance and small and medium scale industries, owing to the direct participation of the Gulf states in the equity capital of such sub-regional projects.

The possibility of establishing an industrial bank is currently being examined in Bahrain. At the regional level, a new institution, the Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC), was established in 1984 by the six Gulf states with a capital of \$2.1 billion (\$540 paid up) to provide Gulf private investors with a broad range of financial services as well as participation in loan funding and equity of various companies, industrial and other.

Commercial viability has been the key test for the corporation's total equity participation has been around \$50 million in 11 approved projects with a total cost of \$737 million.

Utilities are provided at low and subsidised prices in the GCC countries. Gulf governments had established a number of industrial estates with certain facilities in order to encourage investment in the manufacturing sector.

These facilities include the provision of land, electricity, gas and water. Although the cost of these utilities varies from one country to another, in general they are subsidised considerably and, in the case of energy, prices charged are well below international rates.

In GCC countries, restrictions on licensing are not used as a formal procedure to protect local industry from external competition; on the contrary industrial licences are generally granted

freely. Moreover, GCC countries have neither introduced general prohibitions nor limited the import of manufactured goods in an effort to protect local industries.

Non-tariff protection in the region usually takes the form of preferential government purchasing of national products. All GCC countries introduced legislations that deal with preferential purchasing.

These legislations stipulated that governments and governmental institutions give preference in their purchases to tenders for national industrial products, even when prices exceeded those of their imported counterparts by up to a maximum of 5 per cent in Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Nevertheless, national products are subject to a policy of preferential purchasing only if they meet standard specifications as to kind and quality.

Strengthening the role of Gulf private sectors requires the creation of proper mechanisms and investment instruments and the adoption of adequate measures that would help eliminate some of the constraints impeding the expansion.

Furthermore, for Gulf capital invested abroad to return to the region confidence must be built in the existing free market system and the stability of Gulf currencies.

To enhance the repatriation of private capital invested abroad (most of which is in dollar denominated assets), the Gulf currencies should continue to maintain their stability (or at least shouldn't be devaluated), with respect to the US currency to which most of them are in effect pegged.

Gulf investors consider themselves basically dollar based. The threat of possible future devaluation of Gulf currencies vis-a-vis the dollar will greatly hurt business confidence.

Concluded

Economic growth likely to slow down

PARIS, March 19, (Kuna): Economic growth in France is expected to slow down in the next two years in spite of surging exports and investments in the industrial sector, according to a forecast of the state's Audit Bureau.

Growth in 1988 is expected to be around 1.9 per cent, about 0.2 per cent below the previous year's level and 0.3 per cent below the level anticipated by the government.

Household consumption is expected to decline to 1.9 per cent this year and 1.6 per cent in 1989 compared with 2.4 per cent in 1987 and 3.2 per cent in 1986.

KUWAIT							AMMAN		
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE		CPNG	CLSC
-NATIONAL BANK	0.860	0.880	0.880	0.870	637550	11	ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.39	1.34
-GULF BANK	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	460000	15	ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.86	1.84
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	80000	3	ARAB BANK	113.5115.0	
-AHLI BANK	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.40	4.35
-B.K.M.E.	0.305	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47	1.44
-K.R.E.B.	0.400	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB INSURANCE	0.94	0.94
-BURGAN BANK	0.248	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	-----	-----
-K.F.HOUSE	0.475	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB INT. UNION INS.	0.96	0.79
INVESTMENT SECTOR							ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58
-KWT INV. CO.	0.194	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB JOR/INV/TK	2.12	2.12
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB PAPER COM/TRYD	0.37	0.39
-K.I.I.C.	0.158	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	2.10	2.08
-CON.FACILITIES	0.425	0.425	0.425	0.425	20000	2	ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75
-ARILIAN INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB POTACH CO.	-----	-----
-I.F.A.	0.104	0.102	0.102	0.102	40000	2	ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
-INV. PEARL KWT	0.106	0.160	0.160	0.160	1140000	14	BANK OF JORDAN	16.2016.15	
INSURANCE SECTOR							BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
-KWT INSURANCE	0.710	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	CAIRO AMMAN BANK	30.0030.00	
-GULF INSURANCE	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.40	0.40
-ARILIA INS. CO.	0.640	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	DAR ALDAWA DV/INV.	1.49	1.49
-WARBA INS. CO.	0.500	0.440	0.440	0.440	10000	1	DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.45	0.44
REAL ESTATE SECTOR							FINANCE/CREDIT/COO	0.58	0.59
-KWT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.240	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.05	4.05
-UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.120	0.120	0.120	0.120	20000	1	GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
-NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.228	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.34	1.33
-SALAHIAN R.E.	0.075	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	GENERAL MINING	1.50	1.45
-KWT PROJECTS	0.089	0.088	0.088	0.088	402852	7	HIMMEL MINERALS	0.79	0.79
-KWT R.E.I. CON	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	HOLY LAND INS.	1.15	1.20
INDUSTRY SECTOR							IND./MATCH JEMCO	0.72	0.73
-KWT IND. CO.	0.510	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	INDSTRL DEVELP BNK	1.34	1.34
-KWT M.P. IND.	0.320	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	INDSTRL/COM/AGR.	1.44	1.43
-KWT CEMENT CO.	0.585	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
-REF. IND. CO.	0.385	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	INTERN. COM/INV	0.64	0.64
-N.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.96	0.96
-GULF CABLE	0.950	0.960	0.960	0.960	10000	1	ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
-K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.126	0.126	0.126	0.126	20000	1	INTERMED/PETRI/CH	1.48	1.46
-CONT. MARINE	0.350	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	J.TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.75	0.75
-K.SH.REP.CO	0.046	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JERUSALEM INS.	1.32	1.30
SERVICES SECTOR							JO TABACCO/CIGARET	13.5513.60	
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.080	0.078	0.078	0.078	300000	2	JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.06	1.05
-K.N.C. CO.	0.198	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR EAGLE INS.	25.0125.01	
-KWT HOTELS CO.	0.174	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.47	1.47
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.18
-COM.WKT. CMPLY.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	80000	1	JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.02	1.01
-MOBILE TELE.	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.370	20000	2	JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50
-KWT COMPUTER	0.194	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.74	1.71
FOOD SECTOR							JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.244	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR LEASING CORP.	0.77	0.77
-UNTD FISHERIES	0.140	0.146	0.146	0.146	94000	2	JOR LIM BRICK	0.26	0.24
-UNTD POULTRY	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
-KWT FOODS	0.320	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.45	2.44
-AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR PAPER /CARDBRDO	3.19	3.16
NON-KWT SECTOR							JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.25	2.20
-BHN. INTER. BK	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.066	1200000	7	JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.18	1.17
-BHN. M. EAST. BK	0.047	0.046	0.046	0.046	80000	1	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.05
-UNTD. GULF BK	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00	3.65
-COAST INVEST.	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	50000	1	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.65	0.66
-A.G. INV. CORP	0.040	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91	0.91
-FIRST. GULF BK	0.630	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR SELPHO CHEM.	3.03	3.05
-B.K.I.G.	0.092	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.32	1.30
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE							JOR WORSTED MLL	4.50	4.35
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET							JOR. KUWAIT AGRI	1.00	1.00
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE	JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.07	7.07
-PEARL INV.CO.	0.098	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.47	5.50
-GULF INV.CO.	0.042	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	1.87	1.85
-GULF INTL INS	0.009	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN GULF REAL	0.33	0.33
-ARAB INT CO.	0.055	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN DAIRY	1.02	1.03
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN GULF BANK	1.20	1.20
-GULF UNION INS	0.055	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR							JORDAN INSURANCE	15.8515.95	
-B-GULF MEDICAL	0.016	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	1.76	1.76
-B-R.K.WHITE CHMT	0.019	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.15	1.15
-B-AJMAN CEMENT	0.007	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	JORDAN TANNING	1.90	1.90
-B-FUJAJAH CEMENT	0.008	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.75	0.75
-F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	MACH/ENGR/MAIN	0.82	0.82
-G-GULF CEMENT	0.023	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.70
-B-UMM QAIWAIN	0.020	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.60

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IN Jabriya, a flat with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large living room. Tele. 5315333 daytime, 5743299 evening.

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MISHREF, a villa, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, plus 3 rooms on the ground floor, with a garden. Rent KD400. Tele. 5389501, 2-4 pm only.

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Available

MURQAB, opposite Safat Post Office. A 3-bedroom flat with water, electricity and telephone facility for an Indian family, from April onwards. Tele. 2454134, 4-7 pm.

(AT2-41463-3)

DASMAN Area, 2 rooms for families. Tele. Abu Bilal, 2404223, 2532730.

(AT1-41445-2)

MAIDAN Hawalli, one room with separate bathroom for one Indian bachelor to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 14 and 15. Rent KD50. Tele. 5622760, after 2 pm.

(AT6-41427-3)

IN Salimiya, near Bheil Puri shop. Two rooms with water and electricity for couples or two ladies. Rent KD50 for each room. Tele. 4841181, 4841100, ext. 2098, 2-8 pm.

(AT1-41441-3)

QURTUBA, 2 rooms with kitchen, toilet and separate entrance. Rent KD110. Tele. Mrs Barretto, 2514331.

(AT6-41410-3)

SHARQ, behind the Sharq fire station, for bachelors to share with an Indian family. Tele. 4837518, 9 am-1 pm.

(AT6-41430-3)

SHARQ circle, CAC flat with tele. and food for single Indian Christian girls to share with a small family. Bus routes 1, 26, 19, 109, 32. Tele. Assumpta, 5745638/9.

(AT2-41463-3)

SALIMIYA, Baghdad Street, behind Maldan Pharmacy, in a 2 bedroom flat for 2 bachelors with a Mangalorian family. Meals provided. Bus routes 14, 109, 30, 15, 19. Rent KD45 each. Tele. 4843988/9 ext 4184, 10 am-4 pm.

(AT6-41425-3)

FOR SALE

Furniture

IKEA corner sofa, KD40, fish-tank with stand, KD15, Hoover dryer, KD30, push chair KD15, six sitting cushions, KD30. Tele. 5630464.

(AT6-41419-3)

IKEA system 210 high kitchen cabinet KD65, black standard lamp KD10, bookshelf KD5, 2 clothes racks KD5 each. Tele. 5335170, 1-4 pm.

(AT2-41450-3)

Miscellaneous

JABRIYA — one bedroom, CAC flat for rent KD140 with furniture and telephone — quick sale. Tele. 5339186 after 7 pm 5638707, 3-5 pm.

(AT2-41444-3)

UPRIGHT piano for sale — in good condition, also a National A2 video camera set. Tele. 5384445.

(AT2-41462-3)

For Rent

Fully furnished 1-bedroom apartment with CAC/heating. Fully carpeted, domestic appliances and direct telephone system provided. Location: Salimiya - Mughira Bin Shaba Street. Contact: John Rodrigues, Telephone: 4843565, 4846175, 4842037. Timing: 8 am to 5 pm - Sat. through Wednesday.

(AT2-41462-3)

NIKONOS IV A + SB101 flash KD150, Rollei projector + screen KD40, Deco ABL KD30, wet suit KD20, regulator + gauges KD30, aluminium 80 cu ft. KD45, weights etc. Tele. Martin Gordon, 4887407, 5-11 pm.

(AT2-41455-3)

TWIN baby trolley, top quality "Bebecar", brand new, recliner/sitting, front or back facing. Independent adjustment. Converts to a single. KD55 ono. Tele. 3727361.

(AT2-41454-3)

YAMAHA piano in very good condition, KD475, unused Browning Surfcat wind sailer, KD160, CR125 Honda dirtbike in good condition, KD150. Tele. 5313042, 8 am-12 noon.

(AT2-41452-3)

Boats

BROWNING "Wild Green" windsurfer 3.60m, with 5.80m sail, wet suit, roof rack, in good condition. KD120. Tele. Nigel Whitaker, 5735307, 7 am - 4 pm.

(AT1-41434-2)

Cars

MITSUBISHI Cordia, 1983, automatic, 67,000 km in excellent condition. KD600. Tele. Peter, 5333438, after 4 pm.

(AT2-41447-3)

NISSAN Stanza, Nov 83. Fully automatic. In excellent condition. KD730 cash. Tele. Michael, 2418017, after 7:30 pm.

(AT1-41435-3)

AI Azraq Real Estate

Villa available in Mishref — Ground floor, CAC, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, dining room, sitting room, saloon and a kitchen. Rent: KD 350/- Contact: Tel. 2452199, 2452198.

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PAKISTAN PUT UP A FIGHT

Haynes takes West Indies to victory

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, March 19, (Reuters). West Indies, fired by a masterly unbeaten 142 by opener Desmond Haynes, yesterday won the third one-day international against Pakistan by 50 runs to take a winning 3-0 lead in the five-match series.

But the touring team made a spirited effort to retrieve what appeared to be a lost cause after West Indies had piled up 315 for four from 47 overs.

Brilliant With 10 overs of their reply remaining, Pakistan required 76 with five wickets in hand and they had Salim Malik, playing the innings of his life, and his captain Imran Khan, a renowned big hitter, at the crease.

But when Salim was finally caught and bowled by Curtley Ambrose in the 38th over for a brilliant 85 scored off only 55 balls, the Pakistanis' resistance effectively ended with the last five wickets going down for 23 runs.

West Indies' huge total was built around Haynes' outstanding innings. He received invaluable support from the in-form Richie Richardson who hit an aggressive 78, including 12 fours. Haynes, having hit Imran for two fours in the first over of the day, was then watchful against



Haynes: in brilliant form

the new ball hitting only one more four before reaching his half-century.

He then accelerated dramatically and was in mer-

less form in the closing overs.

Haynes, who won the Man of the Match award, will be grateful to Imran. The Pakistan captain sportingly called him back after

he had been given out low to Salim Jaffer off an inside edge when on 85.

All the Pakistan bowlers were expensive, with leg-spinner Abdul Qadir conceding 64 in his 10 overs despite a good first spell of five overs which cost only 17 runs.

Pakistan openers Mudassar Nazar and Rameez Raja made a spirited response to the daunting task ahead of them by putting on 70 before Rameez was bowled by Winston Benjamin in the 14th over.

His 47 included seven fours, most of which were hit off Patrick Patterson who paid for bowling too short by conceding 32 runs in his first four overs. Wicketkeeper Salim Yousuf, strangely promoted to number three, was spectacularly caught off Courtney Walsh by a leaping Ambrose on the long-leg fence when he had made eight.

The inexperienced Aamer Malik, sent in ahead of Salim and Javed Miandad, was almost immediately run out by the athletic Gus Logie backing up too far.

This brought Salim to the crease, but only 24 overs remained with 305 required and Imran must have rued his decision to send in his two best batsmen at numbers five and six.

Salim reached his 50 in a just 34 minutes and, in all, hit 10 fours and a six.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES

D. Haynes not out 142
Simmonee c Salim Malik b Anjum 12
R. Richardson c Qadir b Jaffer 78
G. Greenidge c and b Salim Malik 7
A. Logie c Yousuf b Imran 9
C. Hooper not out 27
Extra (b-4 lb-12 w-4) 20
Total (for four wickets, 47 overs) 315
Fall of wickets: 1-28 2-180 3-236 4-270.
Did not bat: J. Deon, W. Benjamin, C. Walsh, P. Patterson, C. Ambrose.
Bowling: Imran 8-0-46-1, Anjum 9-0-56-1 (w-1), Jaffer 9-0-58-1 (w-2), Qadir 10-6-4-0 (w-1), Mudassar 4-0-32-0, Salim Malik 7-0-41-1.

PAKISTAN

Rameez Raja b Benjamin 37
Mudassar c Deon b Benjamin 33
Salim Yousuf c Ambrose b Walsh 8
Aamer Malik run out 12
Miandad c Ambrose b Hooper 17
Salim Malik c and b Ambrose 85
Imran c Hooper b Patterson 20
Ejaz c Gray (sub) b Patterson 29
Naved c Walsh b Patterson 7
Abdul Qadir c Deon b Ambrose 2
Salim Jaffer not out 2
Extras (b-4 lb-5 w-11 nb-3) 23
Total (all out, off 43.3 overs) 265
Fall of wickets: 1-70 2-80 3-107 4-111 5-188 6-242 7-248 8-260 9-260.
Bowling: Patterson 10-0-78-3 (w-3), Ambrose 8-3-0-29-2 (w-1), Walsh 11-4-3-1, Benjamin 10-0-65-2 (w-4), Hooper 7-0-41-1.

Rackemann fights back for Queensland

PERTH, Australia, March 19, (Reuters). Big blond paceman Carl Rackemann bowled with tremendous hostility to revive Queensland's hopes in the Sheffield Shield final against Western Australia today.

He snapped up three wickets on the second day of the five-day match and then struck a vital blow late in the day by running out Kim Hughes with a superb return.

The match was delicately poised at the close with Western Australia on 157 for four in reply to Queensland's first innings total of 289.

Removing Rackemann dismissed openers Mike Veletta for 23 and Geoff Marsh for 41 and then followed up by removing James Brashaw for 24. He finished the day with three for 31 off 16 overs.

Queensland, who have never won the Shield, lost their last four wickets in 55 minutes after resuming at 245 for six this morning.

Again it was fast medium left-arm Chris Matthews who caused all the problems, swinging the ball alarmingly in the humid and overcast conditions to take four for 26 off 6.5 overs.

Kiwis clinch thriller to tie series

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, March 19, (Reuters). New Zealand clinched a thrilling one-day match against England, winning by four wickets with just four balls to spare. The win means New Zealand tied the series 2-2.

In front of a raucous near capacity crowd of 35,000, Richard Hadlee, returned from injury problems, took New Zealand to victory after they had lost their way in the middle part of the innings.

Set to score 209 to win, New Zealand seemingly had the game sewn up when openers Andrew Jones and captain John Wright put on in good time.

Collapse After Wright went for a well-compiled 47, a middle-order collapse saw the wickets of Martin Crowe and Ken Rutherford fall in successive balls, quickly followed by Chris Kuggeleijn.

Wicket was slipping away at 138 for five with the required run rate over the last 10 overs more than six an over.

Hadlee and Jones achieved this through a mixture of sensible shots and slogs.

When Jones was finally out with two overs to go, caught by Neil Radford off Paul Jarvis's bowling for 90, the match was virtually sealed.

Hadlee, who bowled only moderately well after his five-week layoff, obliged the crowd chanting his name, by smacking a ball from John Emburey into the top-tier of the number one. In the next over he hit a four to finish the game.

Jones and Wright, aided by sloppy fielding, scored briskly to set up New Zealand's strong position.

England's bowlers began loosely, but led by Jarvis, tightened up and tied the Kiwi batsmen down. Jarvis finished with four for 33 after going for 21 off his first four overs.

New Zealand had the better of the conditions after winning the toss and sending England in to bat. Early rain freshened the pitch, giving the bowlers some assistance, but the sun dried it out and it played easier through the day.

England were all out in the final ball of their 50 overs for 208 and had done well to reach that score after struggling at 71 for four in the 24th over.

But good contributions of 48 by captain Mike Gatting and 54 by left-hander Neil Fairbrother restored the innings.

Willie Watson benefited from the early conditions, bowling Martyn Moxon for 19 after the opener had looked dangerous.

He finished with figures of three for 36.

Moxon's partner Chris Broad was bowled for 12 next over by Martin Snedden when the score was still on 33 and England got into further trouble when Gatting's move to sent in Phillip DeFreitas first drop backfired when the big-hitter skied a ball to Martin Crowe off Watson for six.

England's restoration was mainly accomplished by Gatting and Neil Fairbrother in a partnership of 75.

Fairbrother timed the ball sweetly from the start. Soon after hitting one lovely six he was out for 54 when he played across the line to Kuggeleijn.

David Capel indulged in some lusty hitting as wickets tumbled in the scramble for runs at the end. The high point of the England innings was a remarkable catch taken by Mark Greatbatch off Bruce French. French hit the ball to cover and the athletic Greatbatch dived about two metres, took the ball in one hand, juggled it to the other while airborne, and held on to it as he crashed to the ground.

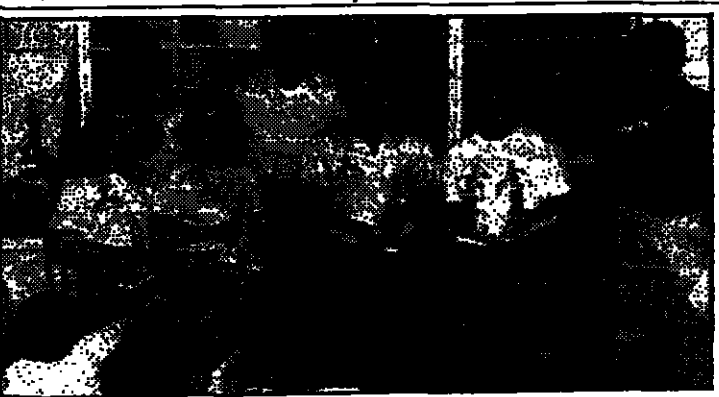
Scoreboard

ENGLAND
M. Moxon b Watson 19

C. Broad b Snedden 12
P. DeFreitas c Crowe b Watson 6
T. Robinson c Kuggeleijn b Rutherford 13
M. Gatting c Wright b Watson 48
N. Fairbrother b Kuggeleijn 54
D. Capel b Chatfield 25
J. Emburey b Chatfield 11
P. Jarvis run out 0
B. French c Greatbatch b Chatfield 5
N. Radford not out 0
Extras (12 lb, 1 nb, 5w) 18
Total 208
Fall: 1-33 2-33 3-41 4-71 5-146 6-179 7-197 8-197 9-208.

Bowling: R. Hadlee 10-0-43-0, W. Watson 10-0-36-3 (1w lb), M. Snedden 10-2-30-1, E. Chatfield 10-2-31-3, K. Rutherford 5-0-28-1 (4w), C. Kuggeleijn 5-0-28-1.
NEW ZEALAND
J. Wright b Radford 47
A. Jones c Radford b Jarvis 90
M. Crowe c French b Jarvis 13
M. Greatbatch c Radford b Jarvis 5
K. Rutherford b Jarvis 0
C. Kuggeleijn b Capel 2
R. Hadlee not out 33
I. Smith not out 1
Extras (b-3 lb-12 w-5) 20
Total for six wickets 211
Fall: 1-36 2-115 3-129 4-129 5-138 6-199.

Did not bat: M. Snedden, W. Watson, E. Chatfield.
Bowling: DeFreitas 10-0-45-0 (w-2), Capel 10-0-42-1 (w-2), Jarvis 9-2-1-33-4, Radford 10-2-32-1 (w-1), Emburey 10-0-44-0.



The champions with their trophies.

Dezhert Rollers triumph

DEZHERT Rollers won the 2nd annual Kay & Associates Inc. (KAI) Bowling Tournament at the 300 Club on Friday.

The Dezhert Rollers team was based on Ryan Abdon (captain), Danny Orozco, Benny Guimoy, Pete Rabe, David Tubat, Danny Ti, Bhe Guimoy and Amy Abdon.

The Pin Busters team of Jimmy Tadana (captain), Edwin Nepomuceno, James Cua, William Reyes, Rex Camacho, Gina Nepomuceno, Jho Reyes, Malon Tadana, Beng Gutierrez and Flor Eguaras put up a tough fight to finish as 1st runner.

Score

Club H.S. were not far behind and took the 2nd runner-up spot. A special moonlight bowling

competition was also held before the prize distribution ceremony. Joel Benecillo of Pin Seekers clinched the men's event with a score of 177 while Arleen Bonacillo, also from Pin Seekers, took the honours in the women's competition with a score of 169.

Joe Bilog topped the Men's High Average game with a score of 173, the Men's High Series went to Lee Ehret with 607 and the Men's High Game honours went to Edwin Nepomuceno with 222. Bilog and Ehret are from the Rolling O's squad.

In the women's division, Amy Abdon took all the honours by topping in all the categories. She had score of 160 in the High Average, hit 209 in the High Game and totalled 558 in the High Series.

Monzon faces life sentence

BUENOS AIRES, March 19, (Reuters). Former world middleweight champion Carlos Monzon of Argentina could face a sentence of life in prison as a result of new evidence that he may have strangled his former wife, a lawyer said yesterday.

Alicia Muniz, Monzon's former wife, died last month at the beach resort of Mar Del Plata, 400-km south of Buenos Aires.

Argument

Police initially suspected that she had died after falling from a balcony of the house where she lived after having an argument with Monzon, police sources said.

But a second autopsy, performed at the request of Muniz's family, showed signs of strangulation, Rodolfo Vega Lechich,

the lawyer for the Muniz family, told reporters.

Sources close to the case said that the new theory on the events surrounding Muniz's death is that she was unconscious, close to death or dead when she fell from the balcony.

Vega Lechich said the evidence could lead the judge handling the case to change the charges from murder to aggravated murder, which carries a mandatory life sentence.

The 45-year-old Monzon, who retired unbeaten in 1977 after successfully defending his title a record 14 times, has been held in custody since the incident. He was treated for broken ribs and other injuries he allegedly received after falling from the balcony of the house.

Tyson takes Tokyo by storm

TOKYO, March 19, (Reuters). Undisputed world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson, enjoying an unprecedented wave of popularity in Tokyo, is expected to crown his stay by defeating challenger Tony Tubbs on Monday.

"Mike is more popular in Japan than he is in the United States," co-manager William Cayton said at a press conference.

Donations

Tyson's sparring has demonstrated brutal punching power. But outside the ring he is mild-mannered, soft-spoken, and visits and makes donations to children's homes and hospitals. He talks against crime and for

education. The combination has made him a winner with Japan's press and public, who have followed his every move since he arrived here on February 17.

His popularity has been reflected in a contract for a beer commercial on Japanese television, worth over \$600,000.

That is more than 30-year-old fellow American Tubbs will receive for the fight. His cut is \$500,000, with a controversial \$50,000 bonus if he is in top condition.

Former middleweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard, here to do a television commentary, told reporters today that while former World Boxing Association

champion Tubbs had talent "he allows himself to get out of shape between fights."

Tubbs has had frequent weight problems. In a public sparring session here earlier in the week he still appeared comfortably cushioned, dazzling neither in speed nor footwork.

But on Thursday he said his weight was 106 kg, only one kilo over the maximum he expected by fight time.

"I know I'm the best fighter," he said.

Tyson did not seem unduly concerned. Saying he was already in "great shape," he added that "one or two more days of training and I'll be marvellous."

Why Not and Jessie clinch top places

By Jadranka Porter

THE wind played a trick on the participants of Kuwait's Lipton Trophy sailing race on Friday, among them a visiting former America's Cup winner, allowing the slower boats to capture winning positions on handicap.

"Why Not" with skipper Frank Graham won the race. It was followed by "Red Viking" with John Waters at the helm while "King Ransom" with helmsman Bob Dowes took the third place.

Wind

The turning point in the 25 mile race came when the wind died down while the cruisers were four miles offshore with all the boats virtually becalmed for about an hour. This meant that bigger and faster yachts such as "Danat," a United Shipping Company boat, which was in the lead from start to finish, was losing points rapidly and eventually ended in the last place beaten by the handicap system.

"Gambit" which was the second to cross the finish line met with a similar destiny to "Danat" which it followed throughout the race. "What happened on Friday was not typical of the performance of the boats or the crews"



Graham (left) and Ferguson receive their prizes from Bertrand. (Photos by Ahmed Birouni)

said David Cook, the skipper of "Gambit". In the XOD class (smaller yachts) the winner was "Jessie" skippered by Bob Ferguson. The second, third and fourth places went to boats named "Pat", "Sue" and "Marjorie" in that order. The skippers were John Brown, Peter Honeywell and Colin Crabbe.

David Cook, the skipper of "Gambit", received a trophy for the best boat for the month of February while the Lipton Plate went to "Red Viking".

The event gained in importance due to the presence of John Bertrand, an Australian who won the 1983 America's Cup,

and who was in Kuwait on business. His achievement in 1983 was remarkable as he was the helmsman of "Australia II", a yacht which beat "Liberty" in Newport, Rhode Island, US, taking the trophy away from New York Club Yacht for the first time in 132 years.

Speaking of his success Bertrand said it required a natural ability, the love of the sport and lots of determination to succeed. "You can't be a content person and then win the world championship. That kind of success requires a total commitment. You've got to be obsessed with what you do, everything else has



Graham (left) and Ferguson receive their prizes from Bertrand. (Photos by Ahmed Birouni)

to fall by the wayside." Bertrand told the Arab Times. He admitted that there was an element of luck in it but at the same time stressed that "you make your own luck." "The key to success is to be so good that even with the worst of luck you are still successful," he said.

He acknowledged that the trophy gave him a worldwide exposure and a great sense of satisfaction. But it was also a huge sacrifice, something his wife and three children who supported him throughout his endeavour, can testify to. Bertrand has not competed internationally since 1983.

"I don't sail, if I did I would get involved," he says. Instead he has turned to the world of finance, promoting investment opportunities in Australia's property development areas. He was brought to Kuwait by Al Julaiah Trading and Contracting firm which has done business with an Australian firm Bertrand works for. Bertrand finds that his success in sailing helps him in his business. "People like to mix with successful people" he says. This was more than obvious at a prize distribution party sponsored by Al Julaiah who promised to bring Bertrand again to Kuwait.

Noah steals the show while Graf struggles

KEY BISCAIYNE, Florida, March 19, (Reuters). Top-seeded Steffi Graf struggled in the first set before beating South African Rosalyn Fairbank 7-6 (7-0) 6-0 yesterday, but the charismatic Frenchman Yannick Noah was the focus of attention in the third round of the \$2.1 million International Players Championships.

The sixth-seeded Noah displayed his usual acrobatic, brilliant tennis in his win over No. 27 seed Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia 7-6 (7-4) 6-2 6-2.

Surprised

Eight seeds fell in both men's and women's singles. Argentine Martin Jaite was upset by No. 26 seed Ramesh Krishnan of India 3-6 6-3 6-3, and American Zina Garrison was surprised by South African Elna Reinach, the world 7-5, 1-6 6-2 6-4.

Graf, the world's number one, had problems with her normally devastating groundstrokes as Fairbank repeatedly won points on unforced errors by Graf.

However, by the end of the tiebreaker, which Graf won 7-0, the 18-year-old West German had found her rhythm and taken control of the match.

Noah, world 11, started slowly and was pushed to a tiebreak in the first set, which had no breaks of serve, but lifted his game in the second and third sets to eliminate Smid.

Noah controlled the last two

sets so soundly that he began hitting trick shots to entertain the crowd.

Noah dropped only one point on his serve in third set, when he was up 40-0 in the final game and double-faulted.

"I'm getting nervous," he joked, and then closed out the match on the next point with an athletic forehand volley.

Others advancing to the fourth round included fourth seeded American Tim Mayotte, third seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina and Briton Jo Durie, who edged American Gretchen Magers 7-6 (7-0) 6-3 in an aggressively played contest.

Andre Agassi was another seed to fall by the wayside. The ninth-seeded American was forced to retire during the fifth set of his third-round match against compatriot Aaron Krickstein.

Krickstein won 4-6 4-6 6-3 7-5 1-0.

In a late evening game, No. 1 men's seed Mats Wilander of Sweden beat 21-year-old Alexander Volkov of the Soviet Union 6-3, 6-7 (7-5), 6-4, 6-2.

Wilander said he was bothered by the inconsistency of Volkov, ranked No. 92, in the first meeting between the two.

"Sometimes he hits great shots and makes it look so easy. Then he'll miss anything," Wilander said. "Either he's going to give the match away or he's going to win it. I feel helpless against a guy like that."

Evert most likely to marry former US Olympic skier

KEY BISCAIYNE, Florida, March 19, (Reuters). Tennis star Chris Evert will most likely marry former US Olympic skier Andy Mill in the autumn, Mill told Reuters.

"It's inevitable that we will get married," Mill said on Thursday. "We'll probably do it in the fall after the US Open. It's hard to set a date between complications with our families and our work schedules."

Divorced

Evert, 33, divorced British tennis player John Lloyd a year ago after eight years of marriage. Mill recently was divorced from his first wife.

"We're not going to have a huge wedding, but we want to plan it out," Mill said. "Finding time is hard because when Chris isn't playing I'm working, and when I'm free she's playing."

Mill was a member of the 1976 US Olympic ski team, finishing sixth in the men's downhill. He now is a television commentator and endorses ski products.

Evert, ranked first in the world five times, has won 18 Grand

Slam singles titles. She won Wimbledon three times.

Because Evert, here to play in the \$2.1 million International Players Championships, and Mill have careers which require a great deal of travelling, Mill said they have to plan their schedules carefully.

"Before she sets where she will play, we look at the schedule together to see where we can be together. In the last 15 months, we've only been apart four or five weeks," he said.

Evert, who began her professional tennis career in 1972 and was for a brief period engaged to Jimmy Connors in 1974, skipped the indoor tennis season in the United States in February to join Mill at the Winter Olympic Games in Calgary, where he worked as a television commentator.

"I'm working hard at this relationship. Andy has been so good about coming with me to tournaments," said Evert in Calgary last month. "I wanted to go with him (to Calgary) because it was his peak season for work."

BTC score first win of season

BTC beat M&M 24-23 in a Kuwait Little League game to score their first victory of the season on Friday.

BTC challenged M&M's throughout the entire 4 innings with a strong out field defence between the pitcher, Short Stop, & 1st Baseman. In the bottom of the 2nd inning BTC was ahead with 15 to 8, then in the 3rd inning M&M's gained the lead with 20 to 18 but was unable to hold BTC in the 4th and last inning.

Results

Magcobar: [10 Masato Watanabe (3), Yusu Al Qalaf (2), Makoto Imai, Samer Koubassi, Tarek Abou Amin, Jun Yoshimura, & Matthew Burchfield all scoring a run each], Gentry: [Ahmed Al Najjar (1), Ramsey Hall (1), Ahmed Mokhtar (2), Robby Bhatia (2), Youssef Al Najjar (2) includes an out of the field HR].

UAS: [13 Amir Gul (3), Basal Al Shamiri (2), Mahmoud Mokhtar (2) includes a HR], George Georgopolis, David Gagner, Walid Khalil, Steve Georgopolis, Tarek Hankir, Nader Al Ajmi all scoring a run each. Al Julaiah: [12 Raid Al Labadi (3), Bibi Ibrahim (2) includes a HR], Gibran Hamdan (2), Haitham Rajab, Khalifa Missind, Nawaf Abou Rabe scoring a run each, Tarek Hamdan & Patrick Khalis making a HR each].

SFI: [8 Mathew Symon (2), Athena Hoffman (2), Thari Ibrahim (2), Said Jamsheidi (1), Shaun (1)], Computhink: [6 Afrima, Paul Colburne, Vincent Vannes, Scott Fortes, Paul Runte, Donat Ha Lee scoring a run each].

AMA: [18 Cory Fox (4), Talal Navarro (3), Hisham Navarro (3) includes a HR], Jihad Sakheh (3), Kae Lee (2), Brad Habib (1), Delores Lisignola (1), Bee Mullers (1)].

SFB: [9 Shemlan Khajah (2), Shehab Al Badou, Patrick O'Connor, Jason Zepin, Sommer Al Nasrallah, Mohammed Al Hamad, Mike Dauoudi, Tariq Al Arfaj all scoring a run each].

BTC: [24 Clifford (4), Radeepan (3), Jamal (3), Billy, Chucky, & Khairy all scored 3 runs each including a HR each, Erik (2), Ravi, Sahar, Raja, scored a run each].

M&M's: [23 Austin Smith (2), Ahmed Fathallah (2), Jacob Hashem (2), Rahman Al Salem (2), Sami Behbehani (2), Yasmin Al Salem (2), Ziad Sakheh (2) includes a HR], Nawaf Al Hamad (2) includes a HR], Ussamah Al Arfaj (2) includes a HR], Ryan Fox, Lucas Runte, Ali Al Qalaf, Ridha Behbehani, Salim Al Fulaj scoring a run each].

Jordan takes Bulls past Celtics

CHICAGO, March 19, (AP). Michael Jordan scored 50 points, the third time this season he has reached the half-century mark, and the Chicago Bulls defeated Boston 113-103 last night, their first victory over the Celtics in three seasons.

The Celtics, who last lost to the Bulls on Dec 17, 1985, cut a 21-point deficit to 86-79 early in the fourth quarter, but Jordan scored 15 points and hit seven consecutive baskets during a 20-10 run that gave Chicago a 106-89 advantage with 3:24 left.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Prize incentive

NEW DELHI, March 19, (Xinhua): India's Uttar Pradesh Olympic Association has announced cash awards which include a prize of 800,000 rupees (\$61,638) for bagging the hockey gold medal in the Seoul Olympic Games.

Tomba triumphs

ARE, Sweden, March 19, (AP): Alberto Tomba of Italy edged Felix McGrath of the United States by 22-hundredths of a second in a World Cup slalom race today and took a 13-point lead in the overall standings.

Tucson Open

TUCSON, Arizona, March 19, (Reuters): American Robin Walton posted an eight-under-par 64 yesterday for a 133 total and a threestroke lead over compatriot Patty Sheehan after the second round of the LPGA's \$300,000 Tucson Open golf tournament.

Jamaican team

KINGSTON, Jamaica, March 19, (Reuters): Zola Budd's decision to pull out of the World Cross-country Championship in New Zealand has come too late to allow the Jamaican team to take part — because they have missed the cheaper airfares.

Barcelona Open

BARCELONA, Spain, March 19, (Reuters): David Whelan, playing in only his sixth big event since turning professional seven years ago, took a surprise half-way lead with a 65 containing seven birdies and an eagle in the \$370,000 Barcelona Open Golf Championship yesterday.

Road race

ADELAIDE, Australia, March 19, (AP): Defending champion Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway said she has taken steps to prepare for sweltering heat during tomorrow's women's world 15km road race through the streets of Adelaide.

Frost and Frederiksen in final

LONDON, March 19, (Reuters): Denmark's Morten Frost stood one match away from his fifth All-England badminton title at Wembley today after a battling semifinal victory against Indonesian Eddy Kurniawan.

The number one seed's polished defensive skills carried him to 15-5 18-13 victory and into tomorrow's final where he will meet countryman Ib Frederiksen, the first unseeded men's singles finalist since Indonesian Christian Hadinata 15 years ago.

Clash

Frederiksen beat fellow-Dane and Wembley roommate, joint fifth seed Jens Peter Nierhoff, 15-10, 15-11 to earn the dubious reward of a clash with Frost, whom he has beaten just once in 12 attempts.

In the women's singles, South Korean teenage sensation Lee Young-Suk followed up yesterday's defeat of world champion Han Aiping of China, by routing title holder Kirsten Larsen of Denmark 11-3 11-3 in 25 minutes.

That was also the time required by Gu Jiaming of China, seeded joint fifth, to upset third-seeded compatriot Zheng Yuli 11-5 11-4 in the other semifinal.

Lacked

But United clearly missed England captain Bryan Robson, ruled out of the match shortly before the kickoff with flu, and Forest lacked the verve to pierce the defence and satisfy their faithful among the 35,000 crowd.

Fifth-placed Arsenal also dropped points after being held to a 1-1 draw at home by Newcastle United.

Paul Gascoigne missed an eighth minute penalty for Newcastle and Perry Groves gave the Londoners the lead after 29 minutes. The visitors' equaliser came through Paul Goddard 14 minutes from time.

The day's action was bound to be overshadowed by Liverpool's bid tomorrow to beat Leeds United's record in the 1973-74 season of remaining unbeaten for the opening 29 games.

But there was plenty of drama at lowly Oxford where Chelsea took a 3-0 halftime lead only to be pegged back to 3-3 with 15 minutes left.

Kerry Dixon hit his second to make it 4-3 for Chelsea in the 86th minute but Dean Saunders notched his second with two minutes left to make the final score a breathless 4-4.

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AL HAJRI PAYS FOR MARSHALL'S MIS-STATEMENT AND NAVIGATOR ERROR

No real winners in Kuwait International Rally

By Gail Seery

THERE were no real winners in Thursday and Friday's Kuwait International Rally. With Al Hajri's win overturned by a panel of stewards appointed prior to the event, Bin Sulayem himself cannot claim his prize until an appeal to Fisa by the Rothmans team is settled.

The story began at the start of the second leg of the rally. On the previous day, Al Hajri had suffered electrical problems which had seen him clock a comparatively slow time of 8.19 against Mohammed Bin Sulayem's 7.04. Over the next five stages he had cut back the seconds, so that Bin Sulayem held a tenuous 18 second lead, with a series of very fast sections ahead of the following day.

Catch That night, navigator Steve Bond had been absolutely confident that the Audi Quattro would be able to take its first win in the Middle East. "We'll catch him with no problem," he had told the Arab Times.

The Rothmans team went on to enter time control for stage seven early. Bond had asked the marshal concerned if it was their due time yet, and the marshal had replied that it was and stamped the card. He realised that a mistake had been made, but no action was taken by the organisers at this point.

Once news reached the Toyota



Al Hajri (left) and Bin Sulayem during the second day of the rally.

Team they made their protest, and this was upheld by the stewards of the event, and the Fisa representative, Bruno Moretti of Italy.

Moretti told the Arab Times, "It is the navigator's responsibility to ensure that the car enters time control at the correct time. We accept that there was a marshal error, but it was still the navigator's responsibility." Moretti was clearly as unhappy as everyone else about the situation, but stressed that the stewards had followed the guidelines laid down by Fisa, and had acted within their brief.

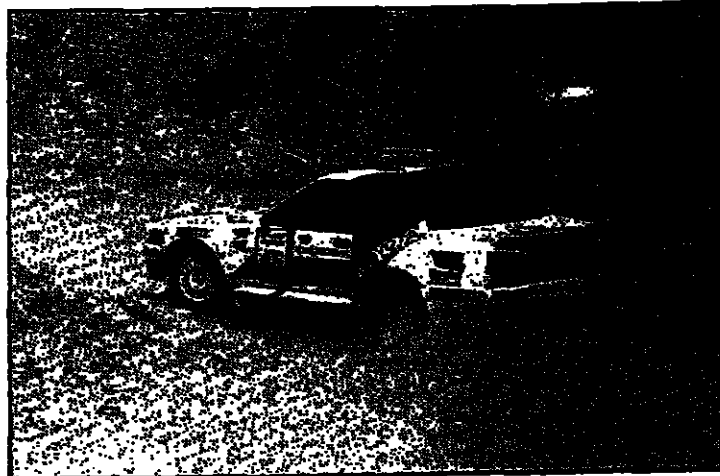
Ronan Morgan, currently co-driver for Bin Sulayem told the Arab Times: "I'm disappointed to take a win in this way.

However I have to do the best I can for my employer. If Steve was in my position he would have brought a protest as well."

There is no question as to whether the alleged time infringement took place, though the time difference was fifteen seconds, not a full minute as reported in rival newspapers, and the error was undoubtedly the result of a mis-statement by one of the marshalls.

Clerk of the Course Wael Khoury said that he was very disappointed indeed at the way things had turned out.

Where the organisers were probably at fault is that a mandatory two minute penalty was not issued when the problem was



spotted by the Chief Marshall. Had the Rothmans team known at that point that there was penalty, they could almost certainly have pushed a little harder over the nine stages and taken back enough time for a win.

If Fisa decide that Bin Sulayem has now won the Kuwait International, then he leads the championship. The truth stands however: Saeed Al Hajri out-drove Mohammed Bin Sulayem on this rally. He is a very professional driver who gets on with the task in hand, and he drove superbly, taking fastest stage times on almost every stage. Mohammed Bin Sulayem, who said continually that he was driving as best he could, simply could not catch him.

Of course the difference in cars had an effect, but Bin Sulayem has profited enough from the power inadequacy of the Porsche.

It was a doubly unfortunate incident, coming so soon after the earlier Fisa controversy. Angry Rothmans officials said that they would not participate in any more Kuwait International rallies, and that they might withdraw from the Middle East Championship altogether.

Al Hajri himself was understandably upset to have his victory snatched from him, and blamed the organisers for being unsympathetic, not only in respect of this incident, but also as regards to the Fisa problem. It was widely felt that if the organ-

isers had tried to find a better way out of the earlier situation than an immediate ban, much heartache and expense would have been saved.

This issue has totally overshadowed the rest of the event, and the expurgated prize giving ceremony (i.e. without 1st and 2nd prizes) was a disaster from start to finish. For one group of marshalls a small incident was to prove the last straw.

Marshalls give up a vast amount of time to stand in blistering hot sun and sand in order to help the event run smoothly. They have to get up very early in the morning, and be in the stages before it is time for the cars to come through. All the marshalls work hard, and the event could not take place without them. Some marshalls have done six or more events with the club, and would normally intend to continue.

Decisions For some reason, whoever made the hasty decisions of what prizes would be given to whom, decided that an award for the best marshal should be made. The two British girl marshalls, who were on their first event, were given an award.

This is simply unfair to the rest of the marshalls and the organisers should be ashamed of themselves. This is not a criticism of the girls themselves, but only of the favouritism which has marred K.T. organised events so often in the past.

Pakistan capture Speedbird Trophy

PAKISTAN continued their domination of the British Airways Speedbird Trophy with a three-wicket victory over a Great Britain XI at Ahmadi on Tuesday.

The British side failed to score enough runs to pressure the Pakistani batsmen into making mistakes.

Face Craig Shipton (71) and Kevin Wells (3) opened the innings for Great Britain. The unfortunate Wells was hit in the face in the second over, and only returned bravely at the fall of the ninth wicket. Dave Talbot followed soon after driving a ball in the air to deep cover.

Patrick Flower (18) steadied the innings along with Shipton. Jimmy James excited the crowd with a brisk 49 as Great Britain looked poised to make a large score at 142 for three.

Opening bowler Sakawat



The victorious Pakistani squad

returned with the new ball and quickly dismissed two batsmen. Naem had Shipton caught on the boundary while Richard Snowden was out after hitting 28 and Clive Greenwood nine.

The Great Britain batsmen

could not take the score out of Pakistan's reach and their innings folded at 210 with Sakawat and Ishiaq the most effective bowlers.

Defending only 210 required accurate bowling from Great

Britain. Steve Anderson, Richard Snowden and Jimmy James contained Amjad (42) and Ishiaq (42) but failed to make the vital breakthrough.

Shipton removed Amjad in his first over and re-introduced Anderson in the hope of unsettling new batsman Razzak (29). The British supporters' hopes of seeing their side win were raised when Haider (5) and Ashraf (0) fell on 124 but Great Britain dropped Ishiaq, who made them pay for this lapse.

Ishiaq went on to make a match-winning 51 as Pakistan went past the victory target with three wickets in hand.

Captain Ghulam Haider was presented with the Speedbird Trophy by the British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe. The ambassador then chose Ishiaq as Man of the Match while Craig Shipton was named as the Great Britain Man of the Series.



The Flying Arrows' skipper (right) receives the trophy from the Pakistani ambassador.

Flying Arrows triumph

FLYING ARROWS Hockey Club beat Unity Hockey Club 1-0 in the final of the Punjab Hockey Shield to retain the title at the KOC ground on Tuesday.

The Flying Arrows put pressure on their opponents from the start of the game. Zahid, the team's goalkeeper, stood up well to the Flying Arrows' attacks and even saved a penalty stroke. The first half ended goalless.

Flying Arrows got the only goal of the match in the second

half through their right wing after they had blunted most of the Unity attacks on their goal.

The Ambassador of Pakistan to Kuwait, Zahid Saeed, gave away the prizes at the end of the match. The prizes were sponsored by Anwar Trading Company.

In a hockey match played on Friday, Unity beat Punjab 3-0 in the semifinal of the Al Hilal Cup. The goals came through Nasir and Liaquat.

France hold off Welsh challenge

CARDIFF, March 19, (Reuters): France resisted a frenzied late challenge by Wales today to win the deciding Five Nations' Rugby Union Championship match 10-9.

France's victory enabled them to share the championship with Wales, who had needed only a draw to win the competition outright for the first time since 1979.

A 65th-minute try by curly French flyhalf Jean-Patrick Lescaurba gave the 1987 champions a 10-3 lead, and with Wales unable to come to terms with the treacherous, slippery conditions at Cardiff Arms Park, the match seemed as good as over.

But with time fast running out, Wales belatedly returned to the

tactics which have brought them such success this year and began to run the ball.

Flyhalf Jonathan Davies, whose play otherwise was decidedly indifferent, made a spirited surge on the shortside with a four-man overlap.

The ball was quickly passed to right-wing Ieuan Evans, who kicked ahead and won the race for the ball to touch down. Full-back Paul Thorburn kicked a fine conversion and the game was wide open again.

The singing in the packed Arms Park rose to a deafening crescendo but France were too experienced to give Wales any more chances and held on grimly to their one-point advantage. Lescaurba and Evans

scored the game's only tries while Jean-Baptiste Lafond kicked two penalties for France and Thorburn kicked a penalty and a conversion for Wales.

And in London, left wing Chris Oti, is only his second international, ran in three tries as England overwhelmed Ireland 35-3 at Twickenham.

Having failed to score a try in their previous four internationals, England scored six in all to rout a plucky but thoroughly outplayed Irish side.

The second-half scoring spree — England garnered all their points after halftime with the wind at their back — brought life to a match that had little to commend it up to the interval when the visitors led 3-0.

Siddique win

SIDDIQUE Cricket Club defeated Punjab Cricket Club by 71 runs earlier this week at Faisalabad to reach the final of the Capri trophy.

Siddique, batting first, scored 217 in 27 overs. Amjad was the highest scorer with 44. Tariq Khan hit 41, Mahmood 27, Tariq 32, Khalid Jr 22 and Mukesh remained unbeaten on 17.

In reply, Punjab were all out for 146. Bader was the highest scorer with 45 while Aslam hit 33 and Asghar 14. No other batsman reached the double figures.

Khalid Pervaz took four wickets for 30 while Tariq and Mukesh got two wickets each and Amjad one.

Siddique will meet Capri Club in the final.

Forest and United settle for goalless draw

LONDON, March 19, (Reuters): Nottingham Forest's first capacity crowd of the season had to settle for a disappointing goalless draw against Manchester United in the English First Division today.

With leaders Liverpool not playing until tomorrow, against Everton, there was a chance for second-placed United and Forest, who are fourth, to make the gap between them and the top a trifle more respectable.

Lacked But United clearly missed England captain Bryan Robson, ruled out of the match shortly before the kickoff with flu, and Forest lacked the verve to pierce the defence and satisfy their faithful among the 35,000 crowd.

Fifth-placed Arsenal also dropped points after being held to a 1-1 draw at home by Newcastle United.

Paul Gascoigne missed an eighth minute penalty for Newcastle and Perry Groves gave the Londoners the lead after 29 minutes. The visitors' equaliser came through Paul Goddard 14 minutes from time.

The day's action was bound to be overshadowed by Liverpool's bid tomorrow to beat Leeds United's record in the 1973-74 season of remaining unbeaten for the opening 29 games.

But there was plenty of drama at lowly Oxford where Chelsea took a 3-0 halftime lead only to be pegged back to 3-3 with 15 minutes left.

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Liverpool are now 14 points clear of Manchester United with three games in hand, and a firm of London bookmakers which stands to lose £1 million (\$1.82 million) if they stay unbeaten until the end of the season must be praying hard.

Further down the division, there was trouble at Wimbledon where fullback Clive Goodyear's Football Association (FA) Cup dream faded in agony after a mistimed tackle by Tottenham striker Clive Allen.

Wimbledon won 3-0 but it could not dampen their anger over the 35th minute incident.

Allen went in recklessly, studs showing, to send Goodyear to



Dixon: two goals

hospital with a suspected broken right leg and no hope of playing against Luton in next month's semifinal.

Allen escaped even a caution for the tackle, but Vinny Jones was not so lucky three minutes later when he scythed down the Tottenham man.

Jones exacted a more respectable retribution in the 62nd minute, stealing in at the far post to meet Alan Cork's flick with a

thunderous volley. John Fashanu and Dennis Wise were the other Wimbledon marksmen.

West Ham, who have sunk dangerously near the relegation zone, eased their problems a little with a 1-0 home win over bottom club Watford.

The deciding goal came from new boy Leroy Rosenior, bought 24 hours earlier from Third Division Fulham for £275,000 (\$500,000), and justifying manager John Lyall's faith in the best possible way.

Results	
English Division One	
Arsenal	0
Coventry	0
Nottingham	0
Oxford	0
QPR	0
Sheffield Wed	0
Southampton	0
West Ham	0
Wimbledon	0
English Division Two	
Birmingham	0
Blackburn	0
Crystal P.	0
Hull	0
Ipswich	0
Leeds	0
Manchester C	0
Millwall	0
Reading	0
Shrewsbury	0
Stoke	0

English Division Three	
Blackpool	0
Brighton	0
Bristol R	0
Bury	0
Chester	0
Chesham	0
Fulham	0
Gillingham	0
Northampton	0
Rotherham	0
Sunderland	0
Walsall	0

English Division Four	
Cambridge	0
Carlisle	0
Darlington	0
Exeter	0
Scarborough	0
Scunthorpe	0
Torquay	0

Scottish Premier Division	
Dundee U	0
Dunfermline	0
Falkirk	0
Hibernian	0
Morton	0
Scottish Division One	
Airdrie	0
Clyde	0
Dunbarton	0
East Fife	0
Forfar	0
Kilmarnock	0

Sheraton

Spotlights

Kuwait Sheraton Hotel
The hospitality people of KWT